

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVIII.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 21st November, the wife of JAMES BROWN, Assistant Government Printer, Kuala Lumpur, of a son.
On the 23rd November, at Welds Hill, Kuala Lumpur, the wife of F. G. BARR, of a son.
On the 5th December, at No. 81, Nakayamatorori, San-chome, Kobe, the wife of O. OLSEN, of a daughter.
On the 6th December, at Singapore, to Capt. and Mrs. H. H. DE L. WOOD, a daughter.
On the 7th of December, at Shanghai, the wife of D. W. CRAWFORD, of a daughter.
On the 10th December, at 20, Whangpoo Road, Shanghai, the wife of Dr. PAULUN, of a son.
On the 14th December, at No. 5, Seymour Road, Hongkong, the wife of BERNHARD EMANUEL, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 1st December, at the British Consulate, Yokohama, before John Carey Hall, H.B.M.'s Consul-General, MAUD S. TOMLINSON, second daughter of JOHN TOMLINSON, Crouch End, London, to ARTHUR H. J. WINDETT, eldest son of ARTHUR H. WINDETT, of Hounsey Rise, England.
On the 8th December, at Shanghai, WALTER REGINALD PARKIN, to FLORENCE DOUGLAS, third daughter of JAMES HERFORD DOUGLAS, of Aberdeen, Scotland.
On the 11th December, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. C. J. F. Symons, HERBERT ALFRED, son of JAMES GRAY, of Shanghai, to HILDA MAUDE, eldest daughter of the late SIDNEY HERBERT LOUTER, of London and Norwich.

DEATHS.

On the 9th September, at his residence, No. 38, Gordon Place, Melbourne, RICHARD W. KITT, dearly beloved husband of M. A. KITT aged 68 years.
On the 23rd November, at Bangkok, ISABEL MACLAREN GOUGH, wife of HARRY GOWMAN GOUGH, editor of *Siam Observer*.
On the 3rd December, at Yokohama, REBECCA CAIN, widow of the late Captain JOHN CAIN, of Liverpool, aged 71 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The French Mail of the 13th ult. arrived per M. M. steamer *Annam*, on the 15th inst. (32 days); and the P. & O. steamer *Coromandel* with the English Mail of the 20th ult. arrived here on the 13th inst. (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

It is now officially announced that H.E. Sir Frank Swettenham, K.C.M.G., retires from the Straits governorship in January next.

The *Novoe Vremya's* correspondent at Vladivostok wires that Admiral Alexieff has postponed his visit to St. Petersburg to January.

The London *Times* is informed that all Japanese of military age in London have received notice to return home. The Japanese Legation says it is not aware of this order.

Viscount Hayashi, the Japanese Minister in London, who has received the Russian reply (which was wired to Tokyo on the 10th inst.) says he has no reason to change his previous opinion concerning an ultimate pacific issue.

The Russian cruisers *Dimitri Donskoi* and *Aurora*, eastward bound, arrived at Bizerta, Tunis, on the 24th and 25th ult. respectively. The Russian squadron, it is stated, will remain at Bizerta until the end of January, and will then proceed to the Far East.

A telegram to the *Osaka Mainichi*, dated London, December 5th, says:—It is reported from St. Petersburg that there is a probability of the retirement of Count Lamsdorff, and that his successor will perhaps be M. Isvolsky, formerly Minister at Tokyo. Count Lamsdorff is believed to be opposed to the retention of Manchuria.

The *Times* Tokyo correspondent wires that after the arrival of the Russian Squadron at Chemulpo, M. Pavloff accompanied by the Admiral had an audience with the Emperor and it is believed renewed the protest against the opening of Yong-ampho. It is declared that Japan is resolved not to yield an inch from her present moderate standpoint.

Count Von Bülow, speaking in the Reichstag, said there was no part of the globe in which Germany was so little concerned as Manchuria and that all risk of complications there were excluded as far as Germany was concerned. Germany's policy there was circum-spect and as peaceful as possible; if, however, Germany was involved in a conflict, it would not be her fault.

Superintendent Law, six other Americans, and five Filipinos have all died from asphyxiation at Mariveles, 34 miles W.S.W. of Manila, through approaching a quarry too quickly after a blasting explosion. 45 tons of gunpowder and 1½ ton of dynamite had been employed to break 200,000 of rock on the new Mariveles property of the Atlantic Gulf and Pacific Company, the Manila Harbour contractors.

A Seoul telegram to the Associated Press at New York states that the Japanese landed marines at Mokpo to suppress a labour strike, and in a riot they fired into the Korean mob killing several. The strikers were employed on the foreign concession.

It is reported in Shanghai mandarin circles, the *N.-C. Daily News* says, that news has been received from Moukden to the effect that on the 2nd instant there were no less than 4,800 Russian troops inside the city of Moukden and 800 artillerymen with several batteries of field guns camped in the southern suburbs of that city; further, that considerable reinforcements were expected to join the present force within the next ten days.

The Japanese Diet has been dissolved and a general election is fixed for the 1st March next. The Mikado, in opening the Diet, referring to the situation, only said that his Ministers were now conducting with prudence and circumspection important international negotiations for the preservation of peace in the Far East and for Japan's rights and interests. The House of Representatives have adopted the reply to the Throne without a division. The reply accuses the Ministry of a temporising policy at home and a neglect of opportunities abroad. This is regarded as doubly significant, because hitherto the reply has only been a formal expression of thanks to the Emperor. This time it practically amounts to a vote of censure on the Ministry.

It is reported from Tientsin that the British military authorities are arranging for the engagement of foreign interpreters from Szechuen for Tibet. According to a Calcutta despatch of the 1st inst., no news has yet reached India as to the attitude the Tibetans are likely to adopt when the mission moves forward, but the Tibetans resident in Sikkim are moving into their own country. There is little or no communication with the posts on the frontier. The Nepalese say that there is a warlike party of priests in Lhasa, but the civil population in the State is in great alarm and would willingly treat with the Mission. Our London correspondent's telegram, received in Hongkong on the 15th inst., stated that the Dalai Lama has returned all Lord Curzon's despatches.

The *Supao* case closed at Shanghai on the 16th inst. Four of the prisoners, including the alleged Hankow rebel, have been discharged. The fate of the two pamphleteers is awaiting on an agreement between the Chinese Magistrate and the British Assessor as to the sentence. There were seven men charged in all, but Chen Fan, the Editor of the *Supao*, succeeded in evading arrest. Chen Chung-yi (son of Chen Fan), Chien Yun-seug, and Cheng Chieh-fu, having been in prison four months, were according to the prosecution's admission sufficiently punished, as they were "minor" offenders. The alleged Hankow rebel is Lung Chih-tse, a former Chihhsien or district magistrate. The two pamphleteers, who now await sentence, are Chang Pin-ling and Tsou Yung; their offence is "seditious libel." The re-opened case, adjourned *sine die* by the Mixed Court on the 21st July last, was tried before a special tribunal consisting of the Chihhsien of the native city (Mr. Wang), the magistrate of the International Mixed Court (Mr. Teng), and the British Assessor (Mr. B. Giles).

THE SITUATION IN THE NORTH.

(Daily Press, 18th November.)

Without professing to have access to any special source of information, we are justified in the conclusion that the long drawn out negotiations between Japan and Russia have at length reached some sort of a settlement, however little confidence we may have in its permanency. The fact of course is that neither side sees its way to seriously hurting its adversary, and a war between the two Powers would certainly be prolonged and resultless. Japan seems all through to have insisted on Russia's acknowledgement of her practical protectorate over Corea, while Russia has equally pressed her claim to freedom of action in Manchuria; and as no middle point where both could agree seemed to offer itself a deadlock occurred, neither side being willing to withdraw from its first position. Russia has been having recourse to her usual weapon, and has bullied alternately China and Corea, with hints thrown in here and there as to the weakness and inutility of Japan and the folly of trusting to such a rotten reed; and it has needed all the diplomatic skill and good taste of Japan to counteract, without committing herself to ill-considered measures of retaliation, these injurious assertions. The difficulties of the situation have been increased rather than diminished by the injudicious interferences of Germany, who in the pretended interests of peace has been putting forward bogus reports of impending agreements, and tendering officious advice to Japan to make peace with Russia while her enemy was yet on the way. It is to the credit of the diplomatic skill and knowledge of outside nations possessed by the statesmen who guide the affairs of Japan that they have from the beginning been able to clearly see through the extremely self-interested motives that underlie Germany's action. By the convention between Great Britain and Japan, the alliance only becomes defensive and offensive in the case of Japan being attacked by more than one Power. France under her present statesmen sees clearly that she has no interest in promoting Russia's schemes of conquest, which are beginning to clash with her own ambitions; Germany, who has already by her recent maladroit policy alienated to a considerable degree the good feelings of the English nation, sees that any covert act of hers in assisting her present good friend and neighbour, Russia, would convert the existing Convention into an active Alliance, does not care to press matters to their legitimate conclusion. Under the influence of that strange glamour which Russia has been able to throw over North Germany, and which has apparently survived the century, Germany itches to do a good turn to her neighbour, and the way chosen is characteristic of the modern Teuton. It is, of course, apparent that Germany has other motives, and is not above swallowing the leavings of the Bear. The Tsar NICHOLAS I. in like circumstances, when he was intent on attacking Turkey, tempted the British Ambassador at St. Petersburg with a similar suggestion, that he would leave some of the carcase to England; the British Ambassador indignantly rejected the overture which came to him from the Tsar's own lips, and this fired a train of circumstances which finally culminated in the Crimean War. What has occurred under the present circumstances has not yet appeared in the light of history, but the very evident desire of the German Government to smooth the path of the Tsar NICHOLAS II. in a like act of deglutition would go far to indicate that the great

grandson has been more successful in the acceptance of the bait than his ancestor.

In the circumstances it seems, then, likely enough, as reported, that some sort of a preliminary arrangement has been entered into between Japan and Russia on the conditions that Japan is to shut her eyes with regard to Russia's occupation of Manchuria. Indeed it is difficult to understand what other course was open to Japan, unless indeed she were upheld by the unanimous consent of all the European Powers. Japan certainly could not, nor indeed could any other Power acting independently, forcibly prevent the occupation of the inland territories, especially when China, whether from utter weakness or from direct treachery, has agreed in the occupation. The resolution has evidently been swallowed with a considerable amount of compunction, and the extent of the salve for this compunction is clearly the subject that has hitherto stood in the way of any settlement. On the other hand, Russia has been carrying her game of bluff to a limit beginning to be felt inconvenient to herself. An exhibition of naval force in the Far East suggested itself to Russia as a ready implement, which without going to war would convince Japan as to the utter inutility of resistance. The result has been distinctly disappointing to Russia, who after twice putting up finds herself in the somewhat ridiculous position of having left herself without sufficient number of ships to show her flag in European waters. In the second place Russia finds her "only friend" not in the same way disposed to give her unlimited credit as three years ago, inconvenient questions are suggesting themselves as to what Russia has done with the money supposed to be applicable to industrial improvements, and Russia has nothing better to show than a financial condition verging on bankruptcy, and a nation and army honeycombed with sedition. Russia has in fact been forcing the pace, and the first check she meets finds her inconveniently overtaken. The other nations of Europe, too, are beginning to look askance at the continual advance of Russia's frontiers, while the explosive nature of Russia's home affairs are beginning to loom up as fit subjects for consideration by her neighbours. This is evidently the reason that some immediate, if temporary patching up of some of the issues between Japan and Russia commends itself to both parties. It would, however, be more than folly, it would amount to actual insanity, to act as if any arrangement come to under present conditions could be other than the most temporary make-believe.

THE BRITISH AND CHINESE CORPORATION.

(Daily Press, 18th December.)

We published the other day a report of the proceedings at the fifth annual meeting of the British and Chinese Corporation, Limited. The statement made by the Chairman appears to have given satisfaction to the shareholders, but it affords cold comfort to that portion of the public interested in the development of British trade in South China. So far as we can see, the Chairman's remarks may be summed up to show that while the German Syndicate have completed a considerable portion of the railways in their concession and the American-Belgian Syndicate are actively at work on the Hankow-Canton Railway, the British Syndicate have hardly got beyond the region of talk. It is true that the preliminary survey for the Kowloon-Canton Railway was finished in 1899, but that is now four years ago,

and in the last century. The people of this Colony consider this quite ancient history; they want now to see something done. Nor are they content to have this railway relegated to the tail-end of the Corporation's schemes; they wish to see it placed in the forefront. The various other projects of the Corporation, such as the Nanpiao Coal Field, the Pookoo-Sinyang Railway, and the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, are all, we feel convinced, most laudable, and no doubt will prove very profitable undertakings, and as such worthy of the interest and support of the shareholders. That the latter are quite content with the management of their affairs is proved by the unanimity with which the report and accounts were passed and by the vote of thanks accorded to the Chairman and directors for the able manner in which they had conducted the affairs of the Corporation. Those affairs are certainly in a somewhat inchoate condition; the welcome announcement that dividend warrants were ready was not made; but the shareholders were evidently satisfied that the ground had been prepared, and plans laid, whereby substantial profits are to be reaped in the future. Hence these thanks and this confidence in advance.

But if the shareholders, who for the most part "live at home in ease," are satisfied to wait developments in the full confidence that though their harvest may be delayed it will assuredly be gathered some day, the colonists of Hongkong and the merchants and traders of Canton are not in a position to view the flight of barren years with equal placidity. Time to them is of importance, not alone because they want to see the Colony develop and progress, but also because they cannot afford to stand still. In the race for trade in the Far East there is no time for halts by the way, or ruminations on the past. The competition of nations and individuals is alike keen and constant, and that merchant or that nation who hesitates, falters, or looks back is speedily left behind. The concession for building a railway to connect Canton with the frontiers of the British territory has been obtained from the Chinese Imperial Government by the British and Chinese Corporation, and this is a valuable step towards a great end. But the concession having been obtained, and a survey having been completed in 1899, only renders the delay in proceeding with the work the more regrettable. The Chairman, at the meeting of the Corporation in London on the 5th ultimo, made a point of replying to the charge of undue delay brought against them, and said it could not be supported by fact. But his reply unfortunately did not deal with the charge in any way, and he practically left it unanswered. It is no reply to say that the preliminary agreements and negotiations for contracts consumed much time, and to admit in the next sentences that the preliminary survey was finished in 1899. What has been done in the four years that have passed since the survey was made? Why was not the next step taken? Why, in point of fact, has the railway not been laid? If the shareholders alone were affected it would be no business of the public and the Press. But this concession made to the syndicate has not been given for all time. If no advantage be taken of it, and no railway constructed, the Chinese Government may feel justified in revoking it and granting a new one to another syndicate who really mean business. This is one danger. There is another. If the Kowloon-Canton Railway is not made and the great arterial line from Hankow to Canton not provided with a seaward terminus at Kowloon, the Chinese Government may

seek elsewhere for a seaport terminus in their own territory. Moreover, the growing peninsula of Kowloon, which during the past few years has made such strides in population and the establishment of industries, will receive a serious set-back if the provision of this railway be indefinitely delayed. The gravity of the situation at the present moment is most pronounced, and no mere hanging up of the question will do. The Colony has a right to call on the Colonial Office to intervene and ask that the privilege secured by the Corporation shall be availed of without further loss of time or prestige. The interests of a great Colony and of a great trade must necessarily rank higher with the authorities in Downing Street than those of any syndicate, company, or corporation, which having secured its talent elects to bury rather than to use it.

JAPAN, RUSSIA, AND GERMANY.

(Daily Press, 14th December.)

The general impression of Europe now appears to be that Japan and Russia will not fight; and this is the case in spite of the acts that the Japanese Diet passed what amounted to a vote of censure on the Ministry for its "temporising policy at home and neglect of opportunities abroad", and that the Yung-ampho question remains as difficult as ever. One very important indication of the expectation of peace was to be noted in a telegram to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* dated Berlin, 5th December. According to this, it was reported from Paris that the first sixty million francs of the large new Russian loan would be floated within the next few days. It is extremely unlikely that any such loan could be floated in Paris unless peace were practically assured. With all the political affection which France may feel for Russia, French financiers (not by any means all financiers of French blood, it must be remembered) are not the men to risk their money for sentiment. Therefore we may fairly take it that France has good reason to believe in Russia's pacific declarations. In support of these latter, it is to be noted that the Russian reinforcements for the Far Eastern station are mostly wintering at Bizerta, on the northern coast of Tunis, and not coming out at once. That the feeling in Japan is rather strong might be a more disquieting factor in the situation, were it not for the firm hand which the Japanese Government has succeeded in keeping over popular agitation during the past few months. It is true that an unprecedented criticism of the reply from the Throne has marked the opening of the Diet last week; but we hear of no outward disturbance. The temper of the Japanese nation has been sorely tried, and that there should be a display of restiveness should occasion no wonder. There is no indication that the admirable control exercised by the responsible authorities in Japan is growing any weaker. Could we be certain of the reality of the influence exerted by the Tsar in favour of peace we might similarly be assured about Russia as about Japan. Europe, however, as a whole seems to believe in the probability of a peaceful issue to a trying and difficult situation, judging by those political barometers, the stock exchanges. What precise significance is to be attached to Count VON BUELOW's speech in the Reichstag, as reported by REUTER, it is a little hard to say. It is long since we knew that "there is no part of the globe in which Germany is so little concerned as in Manchuria." Why the German Chancellor should be at pains to insist on this we cannot guess, and as for his remark that if Germany is involved in a conflict it will not

be her fault, this cryptic utterance may be left for others to interpret. Count VON BUELOW is fond of posing as a political Sphinx. Perhaps his riddles, after all, mean nothing in particular. Germany has other countries' friendships to consider besides Russia's. We do not believe that all Germans are so charmed at the idea of following in the train of Russia, as their country has done of recent years. Nor does it seem credible that the disinterestedness of Germany in Manchuria can be twisted into meaning a backing up of Russia's claims against all who question them. If Germany, according to the literal sense of Count VON BUELOW's words, is neutral in the question of Manchuria, then no danger to the peace of the Far East, and therefore of the world, is to be feared from Berlin.

GRAVE FLAW IN PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE.

(Daily Press, 15th December.)

In a case which came before the Senior Magistrate at the Police Court yesterday a serious flaw was revealed in the Public Health Ordinance which the Legislative Council, in the interests of the public health of the Colony, should lose no time in repairing. A Chinese boatman was arraigned on a charge of having brought into the Colony for human food three dead pigs unfit for consumption, and though the evidence went to show that these putrid carcasses and others which were thrown overboard as the police approached, were to be converted into lard and sausages, the magistrate came to the conclusion that he had no alternative but to dismiss the cases, as it was not proved that the defendant was the person who actually brought the putrid pigs into the Colony. The section of Ordinance No. 1 of 1901 under which the prosecution was brought is No. 82. It reads as follows:—"No person shall sell or expose for sale or bring into the Colony or into any market any food for man in a tainted, adulterated, diseased or unwholesome state or which is unfit for use, or any food for any beast or animal which is in an unwholesome state or unfit for their use; and any member of the Board or any officer of the Board or of the Police may seize any such food, and the President of the Board on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health or of the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon may order it to be destroyed or be disposed of so as to prevent it from being used as food." The penalty for contravention is fixed at a fine not exceeding \$100. In the case before the Court yesterday, the defendant stated that "a pig dealer told him to carry the pigs," but he did not know the dealer's name or address. We are not concerned much to know whether the defendant's statement in this respect was perfectly true or not, but when it is remembered that this is not an isolated case of a small boat carrying pigs in the waters of the Colony, it becomes urgently necessary that the law should be so altered as to render unavailing ingenious excuses of this kind. Quite a traffic, we believe, is done by boatmen who meet junks and Chinese steamers bringing in cattle from the mainland, and it is by no means a far-fetched idea that with the aid of these boatmen the larger craft relieve themselves of any putrid carcasses they may have before reaching their mooring, where, if not before, they are pretty certain to be visited by the water police. The terms of the law ought to be sufficiently comprehensive to render liable to the penalty any person found conveying putrid meat in the Colony except for the purpose of burial or cremation, and we do not doubt that the Government, now that so serious a

flaw has been revealed in the Ordinance, will take the earliest opportunity of so amending it as to embrace cases of the kind before the Magistrate yesterday. It is eminently consoling to observe that the power of the police to seize and destroy the putrid carcasses is unquestioned.

DEATH OF A NOTED REFORMER.

(Daily Press, 16th December.)

The account which we publish in another column, contributed from outside sources, of the death and funeral of the noted Reform leader HUNG CHUEN FOOK (or HUNG KAM FOOK) provides a curious commentary on the methods adopted by the Chinese Government to deal with those whom it adjudges to be its enemies. HUNG was a leading man in the revolutionary movement set going by the so-called "League of Patriots" or "Triads." While yet in his teens, he led an army of ten thousand, it is said, against the Viceregal forces of the Two Kwang provinces. The movement was unsuccessful. During his troubled life HUNG endeavoured, until grey hairs and old age overtook him, to bring about the consummation of his scheme for the reorganisation of the Chinese Empire and the deposition of the Manchu dynasty. It was in pursuance of his mission that he paid his last visit to Hongkong, only to die. The Canton plot of last Chinese New Year's time will yet be fresh in the public memory: HUNG was one of the prime movers in that movement. As will be remembered, it was nipped in the bud before the plot came to maturity, and both in Canton and in Hongkong seizures of rebels and contraband armament of war were made. At that time HUNG escaped. The latest development of the case that came to European ears from Canton after the event was that HUNG CHUEN FOOK had been captured in our midst by being drugged and decoyed to the Southern capital and was there awaiting sentence. Now that HUNG has been buried in our Christian cemetery, under the eyes of the Police, there remains the question: Who was it that was handed over to the Chinese Government as being HUNG CHUEN FOOK? We understand, from information received through trustworthy sources, that the reported capture of HUNG was all humbug. The Chinese authorities unquestionably offered a large reward for his head, and this led some unscrupulous people to set about providing a bogus HUNG. A man was obtained closely resembling the Reformer, and, after all the customary forms of decoying and drugging him had been gone through, he was handed over to the Viceregal jurisdiction at Canton as the veritable HUNG. It appears that the Chinese Government is now cognisant of the fact that HUNG CHUEN FOOK is dead and buried. The man who engineered the fraud upon them is in custody.

SIR F. SWETTENHAM'S RETIREMENT.

(Daily Press, 16th December.)

The official confirmation from Singapore of the resignation from the governorship of the Straits Settlements of Sir FRANK A. SWETTENHAM leaves us still in the dark as to the reason thereof. It was only on the 12th October last that Sir FRANK SWETTENHAM left Singapore on what was stated to be a "short holiday" at home. There was no suggestion then, as far as we know, at Singapore that he was not likely to return, though in certain quarters hostile to him at Penang the rumour had been set on foot. As that rumour was coupled with a whole-

sale attack on the administration of His Excellency and other Straits officials, it was dismissed as an invention of enemies. Now, however, the forecast of his retirement turns out to have been correct, though no one of course will accept the explanation coupled with it at the time. Sir FRANK SWERTENHAM has been a very popular ruler in the Straits Settlements, and his loss will be felt considerably. It will be interesting to learn what were the motives which led him to give up his post. The whole of his official career since 1870, when he passed into the Straits Civil Service, has been spent in the Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(Daily Press, 14th December.)

We have had during the past week in the correspondence columns of the *Daily Press* something in the nature of a discussion on religion toleration. It has often appeared to me that more toleration is shown in religious affairs in these Far Eastern communities than one can meet with in any other part of the world. We had a striking instance of this in Hongkong only a few days ago. Where else in the world may we witness the spectacle that one saw at the Bazaar held by the French Roman Catholic sisters this week, when nearly all the stallholders were ladies prominently associated with either the Cathedral or the Union Church? It was a practical illustration of the fact that while in modes of faith we may disagree, in the great concern of charity all may co-operate on the best of terms.

There has been a good deal of public comment on the recent re-introduction of the stocks as a punishment for criminals in Hongkong. Whatever may be said for or against them as an efficacious instrument for striking terror into the hearts of evil-doers, there is no doubt that our Senior Magistrate believes in them, so much so that several new pairs have had to be made of late to meet the police requirements. But if the stocks have come to stay, there is one direction in which they could be made more irksome to misdemeanants. The other day I saw three coolies carrying stocks down from the Central to be placed in the low-lying streets where the offenders were to be exposed, while the offenders themselves walked alongside unburdened. Why not make the criminals bear their own stocks?

The poverty of the house on the first night of the A.D.C.'s performance last week was indeed to be regretted, and obviously had its effect on the players. What the cause was it is impossible to say, as on Saturday the theatre was full to overflowing. Friday is a bad night to open on, even though no mail may be going out next day, and the A.D.C. would have been wiser to have selected Saturday. The house is bound to be good on a Saturday night in Hongkong, and thus the play gets an encouraging send-off, which was not the case this time. It is not my province to criticise the performance, but I certainly agree with the praise awarded to the local amateurs for their efforts. A little more lung-power was all I could wish them.

These bracing days we have been enjoying recently have brought walking-parties again into vogue. Especially on Sundays—no doubt to the detriment of church-going—people take the opportunity of getting away into the New Territory or climbing over the heights of the Peak to dip down on the Aberdeen side of the island. A much-travelled gentleman, well known in Hongkong and London musical circles, once said in my hearing that there was no spot in the world which had so many beautiful walks as Hongkong, and that of all these the walk from the summit of the hill to Aberdeen was the most beautiful. It well deserved this description. But now unfortunately its glory has departed. The valley down whose side the path meanders has been made a dumping-ground for rubbish from the Peak, and the rowd of carrion hawks that continually floats over the locality tells its own tale.

I wonder how long it will be before the Jubilee Road will have a commencement of a suitable kind—or, indeed, of any kind at all. At present it begins under the Kennedytown Hospital, in a plot of waste-land littered with straw etc., and generally with some piles of refuse burning. This is supposed to be Hongkong's carriage-road! It begins as if it led into a farmyard of a particularly untidy sort. Yet it is undoubtedly a fine and picturesque road after the unsightly starting point is passed. Presumably that regard among departments, the P.W.D., is responsible. In Hongkong it would seem to be an appropriate adage *Cherchez le P.W.D.*

I notice that eucalyptus saplings have been planted along the Jubilee Road. I suppose that this is the work of the Botanical and Afforestation Department. If the neighbourhood can escape fever (against which some authorities believe in the efficacy of eucalyptus) there should be in the future some excellent sites along this road. But the proximity of the plague cemetery is not very inviting in one part of it. Perhaps some day the Government will see the advisability of moving the plague burial-ground on to one of the spare islands. It would be a great improvement to Hongkong.

Though the Chinese coolie does not exhibit the taste for floriculture that is noticeable among the same class in Japan, the Hongkong coolie is not usually a destructive type where flowers and shrubs are concerned. But there are exceptions, and I regret to notice that somebody has recently been wantonly breaking off large fronds of the beautiful ferns which fringe the pathway up the slopes of Glenealy.

This particular neighbourhood seems to have its due proportion of the Colonial police force on patrol duty day and night, but the evil-doers seem to be more alert than the limbs of the law. A walk from the Robinson Road level up the slope which marks the beginning of Conduit Road will supply some evidence of this. The authorities, not without need, place a three-barred iron railing along the right-hand side of the slope; but for the greater length only the top bar now remains. The lower rails have apparently been unscrewed (like lengths of gaspipes) and removed section by section. Very soon, unless a look-out is kept for the thieves, no trace of this railing will remain.

It is surprising how few games the Chinese children have. True, one may see a crowd of nondescripts at Happy Valley some Sundays emulating the H.K.F.C. as they wildly follow a bounding indiarubber ball that is kicked about any way, and occasionally they essay cricket with improvised bat and wickets. But of games of their own they have a great lack. I have seen them playing at a sort of peg-top and a pitch-and-loss! These are exceptions, however. The only game that appears to be held in general favour among them is shuttlecock without the battledore, the place of the latter being supplied by the foot, with the insole of which the shuttlecock is kicked into the air from one player to the other. Even "grown-ups" indulge in the pastime by times, and a good player is always sure to get an admiring crowd of spectators, no matter what the time or place.

The spell of warmer weather after unusually early winter cold here is curiously paralleled by what we read in the latest home papers of the weather there a month ago, when a period of higher temperatures succeeded cold. But there was some reason for the change there; indeed it was a regular phenomenon of the approach of winter at home, and in old England it used to be known as "All Hallows Summer." Perhaps some of my readers who were present at Mr. Hannibal Williams's recital at the City Hall last week will recall the allusion in *King Henry IV.*, for does not Prince Henry, when bidding good-bye to Falstaff, say, "Farewell, thou latter spring! Farewell, All-hallow summer"? There is no equally picturesque name to apply to the change of weather here.

BANYAN.

Mr. V. A. Caesar Hawkins has been appointed Manager of the Yokohama branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 14th inst. in the Council Chamber. Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT, F. H. MAY, C.M.G.
MAJOR-GENERAL VILLIERS HATTON, C.B.
(Commanding the Troops).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir HENRY S. BERKELEY, Kt.
(Attorney-General).

Hon. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Acting Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General)

Hon. BASIL R. H. TAYLOR (Harbour Master)

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. C. W. DICKSON.

Hon. GERSHOM STEWART.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

NEW MEMBER.

His Excellency Major-General Villiers Hatton, C.B., Commanding the Forces, took the formal oath of office and assumed his seat as a member of the Council.

FINANCIAL.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 12) and moved its adoption.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

DAIRIES.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table and moved the approval of the following additional bye-law made by the Sanitary Board under Sub-section 19 of Section 16 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903:—"The following bye-law shall be added to the bye-laws contained in the Schedule to the Ordinance under the heading 'Dairies': 10. No receptacle used for the reception or storage of milk in any dairy shall be used for any other purpose whatsoever."

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

TYPHOON SHELTER.

Hon. GERSHOM STEWART in pursuance of notice given moved:—"That, in the opinion of the Council, it is advisable to increase if possible the means of shelter for cargo boats and sampans during the typhoon season." He said—Your Excellency,—At a recent meeting of the Council when a member moved the adjournment with the idea of getting an answer to a question, His Excellency our then Governor said that if a member wished to ventilate any question it would be more suitable if he did so by bringing forward a definite resolution, and it is on that ruling that I beg to bring forward the resolution which stands in my name to-day. I think the subject of which it treats is one of general interest. I think that, probably in an indefinite sort of way, most people will say they agree with it. I have brought it forward in the hope that it may be raised from the position of a pious opinion which everybody accepts and does not say anything about, so that active steps may be taken for bringing about a very much needed improvement in the Harbour. In the course of late years we have been so busy with the plague that we have had no time to think about anything else. Our money and our time have been spent entirely on that and on other very great projects which have emerged. It is a fact we might bear in mind that the Harbour is after all the reason of our existence here, and from the Harbour we either directly or indirectly all of us, draw our subsistence. We are now in the position—the happy position—of having an abundant revenue. I regret to say that a very large amount of it comes from what I cannot help but term a somewhat evil source, opium; but I think the best thing we can do to square the matter with our consciences is to see that we spend that money to the best advantage. Doctors and the Sanitary Board and shoregoing people generally have been fairly well looked after, and I now put in a

plea for a humble and hard-working section of the seafaring population who have no means of advocating their own cause. If you take a map of the Harbour and paint out all the space required for definite purposes—men-of-war anchorages, the proposed reclamations, and the space required for wharfage and the fairways—you will find that the area for steamers working in the stream is not so very extensive. It is incumbent upon us, therefore, to see that this space is availed of to the best possible advantage. It is well within your knowledge that during the typhoon season work in the Harbour is constantly interrupted for days by the boats having to seek shelter at the very earliest signs of bad weather. The refuge is away up to the eastward, and further than that, even if the superficial area which it represents were entirely available for boats, it would still be inadequate for the purpose for which it exists; but it is very much silted up, and boats, naturally wishing to get in there, leave their work at the very earliest moment to obviate the chance of having to be towed up by launches against the wind. I suggest that this resolution should meet with your favourable consideration. Still it cannot be put into shape for some considerable time, and I would suggest meanwhile that something might be done towards dredging out Causeway Bay. There are dredgers in the Harbour now which might be available for hire or purchase, and I think we could put them to an extremely good use in the present instance. The idea of a western refuge is no new one. It has been advocated at various times. Mr. Leigh wrote about it in the public papers, and I have here got the correspondence which took place between Mr. Leigh, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Government in 1898. His idea is to have a breakwater down in Belchers Bay. I have spoken of it to Mr. Denison, who is a practical engineer and knows the Harbour pretty well. He has drawn out a plan of a breakwater from the north of Green Island and joining the smaller island to the east of it, and this could be built at very little expense as the water is shallow, and the water-way between the two islands would be an anchorage for boats. I am quite convinced that the convenience of the shipping trade would be very much met if this were done, and there are other grounds on which I recommend it, because we must all of us remember what happened in 1900. When the surplus boats had gone for shelter into Yaumati Bay they were comfortable enough as long as the wind remained in one quarter, but when it veered round to the westward in a very short time the damage done was enormous. There were people in great numbers rendered homeless, homeless and boatless, and had the wind not veered round when it did there would have been great loss of life. In fact, I think it may be fairly said that on that occasion the boat population were within an ace of a very great catastrophe. I think it is our right and duty to do what we can to prevent a similar occurrence. I recommend the resolution to your favourable consideration on two grounds—(1) that of self interest, for we indirectly will get some benefit because we are doing something to assist trade and (2) on the higher ground of our common humanity, for I think it is right and proper that we should afford all the protection and help we can to an industrious and hard-working section of the community, who during a certain part of the year may claim to be following a dangerous avocation; because we must remember that these people in numbers, men, women and children, have nothing between them and the next world but perhaps a half-inch plank when it may be blowing a hurricane in the Harbour. Upon these grounds I recommend this motion to your favourable consideration.

Hon. C. W. DICKSON—I beg, sir, to second the motion proposed by my hon. friend. The necessity of providing a shelter for small craft is so very obvious that I feel it requires no comment of mine to recommend it to the early attention of the Government. Hon. members must be aware from personal observation of the scarcity of boats of all kinds soon after the first intimation of a typhoon even though that typhoon be several hundreds of miles away from the Colony and there is really no occasion for alarm. This is due to

anxiety on the part of the boat people to reach the one shelter at Causeway Bay which is very soon, as we densely packed. I believe that if ample additional accommodation were provided, preferably on the west side of the Harbour, the shipping of the port would be relieved of much of the inconvenience and loss which the present conditions give rise to at such times.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I am authorised to say on behalf of the Government that we are fully aware of the need of new accommodation such as is indicated in the resolution. Only lack of funds has been the difficulty hitherto in connection with this increase. Steps have been taken just now to obtain definite plans for the construction of a Harbour refuge at the west end of the Harbour. (Applause.) Meantime the Government has no objection to pass this resolution. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY—I hope hon. members will understand that the difficulty hitherto had been want of funds, and the remark put forward by the Colonial Secretary is not intended to indicate that that difficulty has been got over—I am not in a position to state that—but the matter is regarded as urgent. The resolution was agreed to.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S FEES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for Payment of Counsel's Fees by the losing party in certain cases in which the Attorney-General appears as Counsel.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The objects and reasons attached to the Bill are as follows:—

To provide for the recovery of counsel's fees from the losing party in cases or proceedings where the Attorney-General appears as counsel. This Ordinance is intended to remove any doubt which may be entertained whether counsel's fees can be, properly, included in a bill of costs against the losing party in cases where the Attorney-General appears, but does not receive fees from the Crown.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS ORDINANCE.

The Council went into committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that when the Bill was last before the Council Clause 3 had been held over for further consideration. He moved that it be passed subject to deletion of the Medical Officer of Health from the constitution of the Sanitary Board.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, remarking that it was on the representation of the unofficial members of the Council that the Government had decided that it was not desirable to add the M. O. H. to the Board.

The motion was agreed to.

On the Council resuming, the Bill was read a third time and passed, on the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

UNDESIRABLE IMMIGRANTS.

The Council went into committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the Recovery of Charges incurred by the Colony on account of certain undesirable persons introduced into the Colony.

The rubric of Clause 3 read as follows:—"Owner, charterer, &c., liable in certain cases for expenses incurred by the Colony on account of persons becoming a charge on the public within six months of landing and may prevent such persons from landing."

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai thought three months a sufficiently long time to make the shipper liable for the upkeep of such persons.

Hon. Mr. STEWART suggested six weeks.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said six weeks was too short a period. He thought three months reasonable.

Hon. Mr. STEWART remarked that it would be advisable to stipulate a maximum amount in which a shipper could be liable; otherwise he might be victimised for 50 years if he brought such a passenger.

Hon. Mr. DICKSON proposed six weeks as the term.

Hon. Mr. STEWART concurred.

HIS EXCELLENCY pointed out that a man with very few dollars in his pocket might get over six weeks.

Hon. Mr. STEWART supposed the case of a man who got sunstroke, in which case the ship would have to pay the whole time.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the same argument applied to six days.

Hon. Mr. DICKSON remarked that an imbecile could not be expected to be able to tell what ship he came by. How was the Government going to ensure that the proper ship would be held liable?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—That is a matter of carrying out the Ordinance.

Hon. Mr. DICKSON—The greater the time the greater the difficulty.

The A.C.S.—In that case we could make it one day. That would be better.

Hon. Mr. DICKSON—I would prefer that myself.

HIS EXCELLENCY said the six months' time stipulation came from the Vagrancy Ordinance. He thought three months a reasonable concession.

With this amendment the section was approved.

Sub-section 2 of the same section gave masters of vessels the right to detain such persons.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the provision had been put in at the suggestion of the hon. member for the Chamber of Commerce.

Hon. Mr. STEWART asked if it did not give the master of a ship rather the right to look up anyone he did not want to land, as a lunatic?

The A.C.S.—He has the right any way.

HIS EXCELLENCY did not think there was any objection to this.

The sub-section was approved.

Hon. Mr. STEWART afterwards suggested that it would only be fair to have a clause inserted to protect a shipper who might have a lunatic put on board surreptitiously and who might be saddled with his maintenance for 50 years.

After some discussion the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he would leave the Bill in Committee stage to allow the hon. member to bring forward a definite proposal if he thought it desirable.

The Council adjourned till the 23rd inst.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 17th inst. in the Board Room. Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President), presided, and there were also present Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General; Mr. Fung Wa Chun; Colonel W. E. Webb, R.A.M.C.; Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. A. Rumjahn, Dr. W. W. Pearce, Acting Medical Officer of Health; Dr. B. Barnett, Assistant Medical Officer of Health; and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

SANITATION—TEACHING IN SCHOOLS.

The following letter from Mr. Chamberlain was laid on the table:—

"I have the honour to inform you that my attention has been drawn by the Sanitary Institute to the difficulty of making effective use of recent discoveries in tropical hygiene without the co-operation of the people most likely to benefit by them, and to the consequent desirability of spreading the elements of knowledge in such matters through schools in tropical colonies. Valuable work in this direction has already been done in the Colony of Lagos, and I enclose for your information extracts from a despatch addressed to me by Sir W. MacGregor describing the methods by which instruction in sanitation is given in that Colony. I shall be glad to learn whether any attempt is being made on similar lines to teach the rudiments of hygiene in the Colony under your Government, or whether you consider that either teachers or school children can usefully be given such instruction. It seems to me that skilfully arranged lessons on the natural history of the most important tropical diseases might be made very attractive to children and that such teaching would be of practical utility in the future. If a demand for such lessons were to become apparent it would be possible to arrange for the preparation of suitable hand-books and primers on the subject.

The PRESIDENT said he might take it that the Board should reply heartily endorsing the scheme and stating that they would do all they could to further its objects.

This was agreed to.

CLEANSING WORK.

Dr. Pearse reported that from 10th November till 12th December 12,391 floors had been cleansed under the supervision of the plague inspectors. No complaint had been made by any inspector of any serious opposition to the cleansing, and no complaint had been received from the people of any loss sustained or undue hardship inflicted in consequence of this work.

The PRESIDENT said he might take it that the work was proceeding satisfactorily. Practically more than half the houses had now been dealt with.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN was glad to hear that the work was being carried out so satisfactorily by the Chinese.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK remarked that it was very gratifying to hear that report. It gave great satisfaction, he was sure, to the members that the result had justified the concession given to the Chinese. There was no doubt that a little sympathy, such as was being shown apparently by the M.O.H. and his subordinates, went a long way in pacifying the minds of the Chinese and inducing them to come forward and co-operate with the Board. He congratulated the Board's officer on the successful and satisfactory manner in which the work had been carried out.

FIREPLACES IN CHINESE HOUSES.

Mr. RUMJAHN pursuant to notice asked the following questions:—

1. How many notices requesting owners of houses to comply with the provisions of Sections 140 and 142 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, No. 1 of 1903, in respect of fireplaces, chimneys or smoke-flues, have been served by the officers of the Board since the 1st day of November, 1903?

2. Under whose complaints the notices above referred to were issued; and before the issue of such notices, whether any verification had been made as to the correctness or otherwise of such complaints?

3. By whom the notices above referred to were made out, and by whom they were signed?

4. Under what authority or by whose instructions should the officers of the Board be concerned in the question of the proper construction or otherwise of fireplaces, chimneys, or smoke-flues; such matters being distinctly laid down in Sections 140 and 142 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, No. 1 of 1903, as wholly and solely concerning the Building Authority?

The PRESIDENT replied as follows:—

(1) There have been 117 notices issued under Section 140 and 207 notices issued under Section 142.

(2) The notices have been issued at the complaint of the district inspectors, and it is the duty of the senior inspectors to verify the complaints of the district inspectors.

(3) The notices are made out in this department and signed by the Building Authority.

(4) The Building Authority.

There was submitted a letter from Mr. Fung Wa Chun stating that several notices signed by Mr. Tooker on behalf of the Building Authority had been served on owners of property requiring them to provide fireplaces in every kitchen under Section 140 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, and also requiring them to provide every such fireplace with a proper chimney or smoke-flue under Section 142. As almost every kitchen of Chinese tenement houses is provided with a platform on which are placed chatties for cooking purposes and over this platform a hood is erected for the conservation of smoke, which escapes through an opening in the smoke-flue or chimney, it had been customary to treat this platform as a fireplace. The platform was to all intents and purposes a fireplace. If the notices served had been issued at the instigation of the Board he would venture to suggest that no action should be taken until this matter had been fully threshed out.

The D.P.W.:—"It is unfortunate that in the case of such a matter as this the inspectors do not take the trouble to enquire of the M.O.H. what is intended by the use of the word fireplace before proceeding to serve notices broadcast. The fact that practically all houses are provided with the same shape of cooking

hearth ought to be sufficient to cause them to enquire."

Captain Lyons:—"Notice and summonses should be served through the Secretary."

Mr. Lau Chu Pak:—"It has already been decided by the Board that under Section 143 no hood of sheet metal need be provided where the fireplace is not adapted for the use of charcoal. The fireplace in Chinese houses, as correctly explained by Mr. Fung Wa Chun is a platform on which chatties are placed. In both cases the notices have been wrongfully served. No subordinate officers of the Board should be allowed to interpret the law in their own way independently of the M.O.H. Complaints have been too often received that one inspector insists on certain things being carried and another something entirely different under the same Ordinance. In fact people do not know what is actually wanted. I think a great deal of annoyance and trouble would be saved in future if no notices or summonses were issued without the knowledge or consent of the President or the Medical Officer of Health.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: "Instructions should be given to the inspectors in accordance with the recent decision arrived at by the Board."

Mr. Rumjahn:—"I received on the 26th ult. four notices in respect of nine houses, three of which were unoccupied and locked. It is strange how the inspector went into the locked houses, as the caretaker informs me that no one had been inside these houses. Am writing to the Secretary about the notices served on me."

Mr. Hewett:—"It is very evident that the inspectors are not fit persons to interpret the meaning of the Ordinance, and they should not be permitted to issue notices such as are mentioned by Mr. Fung Wa Chun without reference to one of the senior officials of the Sanitary Board."

The PRESIDENT said that the senior inspectors had been instructed that these notices concerning fireplaces were to be withdrawn. It was on the 30th November that the matter was brought to their knowledge that these notices were being issued by one of the senior inspectors, Inspector Conolly. It was unfortunate that this mistake should have occurred. It showed the difficulty that might arise in dealing with a new Ordinance of this nature. Part 3 dealt more especially with building details and did not exactly come within the purview of the Public Health inspectors or at any rate some of them. The inspectors had been obtained from home practically to deal with nuisances that arose in the Colony and they did not know what these Chinese platforms were—at least Inspector Conolly did not know—and in his opinion these platforms in many cases were not properly constructed. As soon as it came to the knowledge of the M. O. H. he explained that these platforms were used as fireplaces generally by the Chinese and that these notices should be withdrawn. This had been done.

Mr. RUMJAHN stated that on the previous day he had seen notices dated the 10th inst.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said it was quite reasonable that such notices should be served if premises were lacking in that respect. The explanation of the President referred to houses where they were fitted up in non-compliance with what had been hitherto allowed to be used. There was some excuse for an inspector going wrong in the matter of serving such notices. He presumed that the notices referred to by Mr. Rumjahn were for incomplete or defective construction of the fireplaces. There were a good many old houses here in which no flue-pipes were provided at all.

Mr. RUMJAHN replied that the houses he referred to were built 10 years ago and belonged to the West Point Building Co.; they were all provided with chimneys or smoke-flues. He had had notices served upon him in respect of new houses which were not yet occupied.

Mr. HEWETT said it was satisfactory to know that these notices had been withdrawn. The reply given by the Vice-President was like drawing a red herring across the path. The Board should consider that their inspectors, by their own showing, were not qualified to interpret the Act. The Board had a very difficult task in helping the Government to carry out a most extreme and rigorous sanitary measure. Every possible consideration should be paid to

land owners and property owners. The Board should do what they could to see that no undue friction arose and clearly if they got a lot of uneducated or semi-educated people out from home to go and interpret the law he maintained they were going to work on altogether wrong lines.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—It is scarcely reasonable to make these remarks about the inspectors.

Mr. HEWETT (warmly)—It is perfectly reasonable, Mr. Vice-President, and I hope you will allow me to make my remarks. We have had notices served on certain property owners which have been repudiated by the President, and I maintain I am absolutely right and that my remark was perfectly right when I said that the interpretation of the details of this Bill should not be left to semi-educated people who are incompetent. I maintain I am perfectly right in saying that in the interests of the Colony at large no summons of this nature should be served unless it has been put before one of the senior officers of the Board, and a semi-educated inspector on a small salary is not a properly qualified man to interpret the law.

The PRESIDENT—I am afraid I must call you to order.

Mr. HEWETT—I maintain they are not qualified to interpret an Act of Parliament.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—That is another matter. You are qualifying it now.

Mr. HEWETT—I beg your pardon. We do not get highly educated men as inspectors, and they should not be entrusted with the interpretation of a Bill which puzzles our best authorities, including the Attorney-General. The way in which this Board is working by putting these powers in the hands of the inspectors will land us in difficulties. Here we have the President repudiating the action of one of his servants.

The VICE-PRESIDENT contended that it was not a question of education but of form of construction, and it seemed to him quite reasonable that one, however highly educated, might easily go astray in dealing with this matter.

Mr. HEWETT explained that when he used the term "semi-educated" he did not cast any reflection upon the education of the sanitary inspectors. What he did say was that from their own training they were not qualified to put a legal construction upon the Act.

EXTERNAL AIR.

Mr. A. Rumjahn, writing as a member of the sub-committee appointed to consider what amendments appeared desirable in the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, and as a member of the Board, protested against the Government utilising the following reason for introducing the new definition of "external air," as embodied in the Bill—In order to give effect to the Board's recommendation a new definition of the expression "external air" is submitted to Council. According to his reading of the recommendation of the sub-committee and, subsequently, of the Board in respect of the definition of "external air," the Board never recommended such a definition as proposed by the amending bill, and such a definition if it became law and was enforced would cause the habitation of many valuable buildings to be illegal without a reasonable compensation being paid to the owners thereof; and against the arbitrary and drastic measure he had already submitted many reasons.

Mr. Rumjahn minuted:—Although a proviso is introduced at the end of section 153 by the amending bill giving the Governor-in-Council power to modify the requirements upon such conditions, if any, as may be deemed expedient, applications for about 90 per cent. of the existing buildings have to be made for exemption. The condition to be imposed upon owners of property would be dependent upon the taste of the expert for the time being in power, and there is no telling how often a building has to be altered to comply with the wishes of those who might be called upon from time to time for their opinion. This would be obviated by the introduction of a consistent and comprehensive definition as that proposed by the Board. Do our legislators contend that, in the case of an existing four-storeyed building, say 55 feet in height, a room having the required window, opening into a 15ft. open space in the rear or in front, can be maintained, but in the case of existing two-storeyed buildings, say

30 feet in height, no room can be maintained if the open space is only ten feet? If so, and this is exactly what the new definition seeks to legislate, I venture to refer them to Part V. of the London Building Acts, 1894-98, wherein the open spaces about buildings are not so inconsistently regulated. To comply with the provisions of the proposed definition of external air it would be necessary in the case of refusal of modification by the Governor in Council to take down and set back the front wall of hundreds of existing buildings, and to re-construct a great many of them. The insanitary defects in the designs of these buildings and laying out of streets and lanes are undoubtedly due to negligence of the Government for placing the laying out of the city in the hands of officials devoid of sanitary experience and training. For this neglect owners of property are now made to suffer the equivalent compensation for their loss in land, and sacrifice any income being denied them contrary to the Acts of Parliament governing such matters.

Mr. Lau Chu Pak minuted: It is no doubt strange that the public should have been misled to believe that it was on the recommendation of the Sanitary Board that the definition of external air has been modified to what it now reads. I distinctly recollect that when the report of the sub-committee was submitted to the Board for adoption the majority of its members agreed that any unobstructed open space, 8 feet wide in front, 12 feet wide on the sides, and 13 feet wide in the rear of existing buildings, should be reckoned as external air. The Director of Public Works was then the only member who insisted on providing 13 feet in front. Evidently, it was on his recommendation that action has been taken, and the new definition worded to what it now stands before the Legislative Council. The question of 13 feet had been thoroughly and carefully threshed out at the many sittings of the sub-committee, and found to be excessive and drastic. If it were to be strictly enforced more than a hundred of those tenement houses fronting on lanes under 10 feet in width would be condemned as unfit for habitation without a cent of compensation. I heartily join Mr. Rumjahn in his protest. It is all very well for members to be reminded that, serving on the Sanitary Board, they are looked upon as advisers to the Government, only on things sanitary, and not on matters otherwise. But in legislating for sanitation, as for other other objects, I presume I am correct in saying that the same principles of justice and fairplay must not be lost sight of. The existing insanitary buildings, as is only too true, were erected with the approval of the Government, and its advisers, our predecessors. It is certainly unfair and unreasonable to make their owners suffer for the sanitary defects that are being, or may hereafter, be detected. I may at the same time point out that in most cases short of total resumption no actual improvement as regards the condition of the Colony can be effected. Apart from the gross injustice it is not politic to try by drastic and unfair measures to vex people into giving up their lands without compensation. For the past eleven years, at the instance of the Sanitary Board, vast sums of public money which might have been more usefully employed in resuming slums and other insanitary properties have been ungrudgingly spent without any practical result. For the public good the Government should not be so chary of paying compensation.

Mr. Fung Wa Chun minuted—I distinctly remember that the recommendation of the Board with regard to the definition of external air is quite different from that proposed by the amending bill. The new definition is practically the same as the existing one. The Board has never enforced the law as regards the external air as far as the buildings in narrow lanes are concerned. If the proposed new definition is made law hundreds of houses have to be set back and re-constructed. It has been repeatedly said that sanitation is an unknown quantity amongst the Chinese. The buildings in narrow lanes have been erected with the consent of the Government, according to the sanitary principles of the time; the plans of the insanitary Chinese houses now in existence were prepared and passed by those well-versed in sanitation. It is, therefore, clear that if these buildings are now found to be insanitary

it is not the fault of the owners. It is most unfair to hold Chinese owners to blame. In England compensation is paid in all such cases, and it is but just and fair that in a British Colony that justice and fair play should be copied from the Mother Country.

The PRESIDENT remarked that the determination came to by the Government on this matter did not agree with the recommendations made by the Board on the subject. The matter had been practically settled, so he thought they need not take any further action.

Mr. Hewett gave notice that he would ask the President to make a statement on behalf of the Board showing where the differences between them and the Government lay. It was only right that the public should know the position the Board took up.

APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION.

An application was submitted for exemption from the provision of open spaces in respect of Nos. 17 to 23, Macdonald Road, Yau-mati.

Mr. Rumjahn minuted:—"The corner house, No. 17, has a side street 30 feet wide. It is customary to grant exemption to houses similarly situated. As regards the other houses, on the recommendation of Dr. Clark many houses having a back lane of 14 feet have been exempted, and on the recommendation of Dr. Pearce many houses in Queen's Road West having a public street, also about 14 feet in width, in their rear, but on which other houses front, have also been exempted, by dividing up the kitchens as suggested by the applicants. Doctors as a rule disagree, but the Board ought to be consistent in its actions."

The application was refused; it was stated that a new application would be made in respect of No. 17.

AN OBSTRUCTION.

There was laid on the table an application for the renewal of a fruit licence in respect of No. 237, Queen's Road West.

The M. O. H. minuted that the tenant of the stall was really turning the pavement into a shop.

Hon. Mr. Pollock:—"It would appear from the M.O.H.'s minute that this man is obstructing a busy thoroughfare, which should should not be allowed."

Mr. E. A. Hewett:—"I agree with Mr. Pollock."

Application refused.

ANALYSIS OF WELL WATER.

Mr. Frank Browne, Government Analyst, reported that he had analysed two samples of water from a well on vacant ground in the rear of K.I.L. 1092 and a well at Man Lam gardens. He was of opinion that the water was so tainted with impurities as to be unfit for potable purposes and likely to prove injurious to health.

The Registrar-General:—"Before deciding whether these wells should be closed there should be fuller information before the Board as to their position and whether the water is used for cultivation and whether the houses in the neighbourhood are supplied with good water for drinking purposes or not."

Hon. H. E. Pollock:—"These wells should be closed at once."

Mr. A. Rumjahn:—"Close."

Mr. E. A. Hewett:—"Certainly; close at once."

It was agreed to close the wells.

This was all the important public business.

RAT RETURN.

It was reported that during the fortnight ended 14th December 916 rats had been destroyed. Of these, 9 were found to be infected with plague.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held in the Chamber Room, City Hall, on Tuesday, 1st December, 1903, at 3.45 p.m., Present:—Mr. E. A. Hewett (Chairman), Mr. D. R. Law (Vice-Chairman), Messrs C. Michelau, N. A. Siebs, J. R. M. Smith, R. C. Wilcox, A. G. Wood, and A. R. Lowe (Secretary).

MINUTE.

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 17th ult. were read and confirmed.

MEMBERSHIP.

It was decided to allow the transfer of membership of Messrs Hotz & Jacob & Co. to the Holland China Trading Co.

EXPLOSIVES ON BOARD STEAMERS

IN THE HARBOUR.

The following letter was read:—

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.
Hongkong, 30th November.

SIR,—I am instructed to acknowledge the receipt of your predecessor's letter of the 24th ult. intimating that His Excellency Sir Henry Blake was unable to agree to the alteration in the law contemplated in my letter of the 19th ultimo, or to appreciate the hardship involved in the flying of the red flag. Mention is also made that in nine cases out of ten the Harbour Master's permission is obtained prior to the entry of the ships into the harbour.

It happens, however, that the exception is in most instances a mail steamer which it is of the utmost importance not to unnecessarily delay in the ports en route. These mail ships invariably carry their own mails, and their agents are thus unable to file particulars of any dangerous goods which may be on board in advance of the arrival of the vessel. In order to conform with the present harbour regulations it is obligatory for such ship to fly the red flag and to remain in the Dangerous Goods Anchorage (which is for obvious reasons situated in an out-of-the-way part of the harbour) for some hours to enable the necessary permission to be obtained from the Harbour Master to move alongside the wharf or to her moorings amongst the general shipping. Detention of this nature may not infrequently occur where the only ammunition on board is a case of safety cartridges, which my committee think the Government can hardly consider sufficient reason to justify delaying any vessel. His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government will, my committee trust, readily understand that the existing regulation presses very hardly on an expensive class of ship simply because it happens to be carrying ammunition on board in small quantities which in the Treaty Ports of China are not deemed dangerous. My committee merely ask that similar facilities in this respect may be granted here to those existing in the Chinese Treaty Ports.

The Committee of the Chamber are well aware that the alteration in the harbour regulations now sought is not of great importance but rather one of convenience to the shipping interest, and their object in endeavouring to obtain His Excellency's consent to their request is to secure the removal of a petty annoyance, and to have reinstated that freedom from vexatious restrictions which has tended towards the development of the port.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. R. LOWE, Secretary.

Hon. A. M. Thomson,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Chairman said a reply would doubtless be received from the Government in due course.

LICENSING OF PILOTS.

The recent prosecution of the master of the s.s. *Typanas* for negligent seamanship in running over the wreck of the *Pakshan* was discussed, and it was decided to bring the case to the notice of the Government as a proof of necessity for the pilots to be brought under similar control to that exercised in other large ports.

PLAGUE-STRICKEN HONGKONG.

The Chairman drew the attention of the Committee to an extract from the Canadian Press published in the *China Mail* of the 23rd November. He said alarmist matter of this kind would not improve the reputation of the port in the eyes of merchants abroad, and suggested that if the Secretary could find out the name of the local correspondent who was responsible for the misleading news, it would be well to impress him with the advisability of discontinuing similar methods in future.

On the 21st ult. the official launching took place at Port Arthur of the torpedo-boat *Statnoi*, the last of the series of twelve built there. The first six have been already completely equipped and have commenced their work. Their speed has exceeded that stipulated for and has reached 30 knots.

THE A.D.C. AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."

This "trivial comedy for serious people" was the last of its hapless author's contributions to the stage—under his own name at least, for it is said that he had a hand in another play which attained a marked success in London afterwards. In ways *The Importance of Being Earnest* is the cleverest of Wilde's comedies, but it differs from its three predecessors in being on the borderland of farce, and indeed overstepping the boundary at times, particularly in the second act. But in its dialogue it has all the brilliance and pungency of the others, all that wit which inspired its author to call himself in a happy moment the only English comedy-writer since Sheridan—"and both were Irishmen." There is in *The Importance of Being Earnest* a lighter and gayer touch than in *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *A Woman of No Importance*, or *An Ideal Husband*, and there is absent the element of tragedy verging on melodrama which marks them. The epigram is not so bitter, the sarcasm gentler. To borrow an expression from W. S. Gilbert's *Utopia*, this play "teems with quiet fun." The charming humour of the Bunbury idea—the invention by Algernon Moncrieff of "an invaluable permanent invalid called Bunbury" in order that he may go down into the country whenever he chooses, though Algernon's aunt, Lady Bracknell, can only consider Bunbury's "shillyshallying with the question" whether he is going to live or die absurd—is a triumph, and its parallel in Jack's invention of a younger brother Ernest, who "lives at the Albany and gets into the most dreadful scrapes," and who incidentally furnishes Jack with an excuse for running up to town when he wants, is another. The whimsical idea of two young ladies who can only love a man of the romantic and musical name of Ernest (whence the play's punning title) is delightfully worked out, and the differences and similarities of the two girls used to the fullest advantage. Then there is the inimitable Lady Bracknell, whose every word is instinct with that which produces smiles. It is impossible to quote her, for the wit of her remarks depends on their absolutely suitable incongruity, which robbed of their environment lose most of their force. All the characters, however, are tellingly drawn, down to the valet Lane, who, when his master tells him he is a "perfect pessimist," respectfully remarks, as he leaves the room, "I do my best to give satisfaction, sir." *The Importance of Being Earnest* is one of those few plays which with equal enjoyment may be read and re-read or seen and re-seen. All its author's plays have this quality, and this fact, to our mind, makes his position among British playwrights secure.

The cast which presented to Hongkong on the 11th inst. for the first time in amateur circles this masterpiece of wit, was for the most part new to theatre-goers here, Mrs. Hastings has been seen before—in *Our Flat*—and so have Mrs. Pemberton and Captains Bushe and Davidson in small parts. But, as far as we know, the other actors and actresses are new to the local stage. A little extra curiosity has consequently been felt, since the cast was first announced, as to how the newcomers would shape and how the whole combination would succeed in interpreting a piece exacting perhaps more than the usual amount of intelligence, if at the same time abounding in what in the beautiful stage slang is called "fat." It is not of course possible to criticise a first night's performance as if on its true merits. But it may be said at once that the whole company last night made a very pleasing impression and inspired the expectation that, with a little more confidence, they would be able to give a more than creditable rendering of the play. The house, owing to the fact of the opening night being a Friday, was not as good as might be desired, and the appearance of a few empty seats in the stalls is apt to have a somewhat depressing effect. Then there were unfortunately, during the first act at least, some rather talkative gentlemen in the pit, who at one time seemed to have very little consideration for those on the stage. With the raising of the curtain for the second act, things went much better, and so continued to the end. The audience

showed itself more justly appreciative as the performers warmed up, and it was amid hearty applause that the last words were spoken. The chief honours of the performance rested with Mrs. Hastings and Lieut. Davidson. Mrs. Hastings' Lady Bracknell was a capital creation, and she missed very few points. Lieut. Davidson was charmingly natural in the part of Algernon; a better representative could not be found out here, it is certain. Lieut. Smith was good as John Worthing, particularly as the play grew older. Capt. Bushe's Canon Chasuble was a very fair impersonation; he might have been perhaps a little more impressive. Mrs. Pemberton and Mrs. Tulloch both spared their voices too much, but in other respects they made a very favourable impression on the audience. A trifle more clearness of elocution would work wonders. As Mrs. Tulloch has been prostrated with fever, we understand, it was an excellent reappearance in every way that she made. Mrs. Fitzwilliams as Miss Prism was just what the part required and never failed to amuse, but she too might be a little more outspoken. The small parts of Lane and Merriman were capably undertaken by Messrs. Hancock and Brent.

The full cast was as follows:—

John Worthing, J. P. Lieut. Smith, R.A.
Algernon Moncrieff Lieut. J. Davidson, R.A.
Rev. Canon Chasuble, D. D. ... Capt. Bushe, R.A.
Merriman Mr. Brent
Lane Mr. H. Hancock
Lady Bracknell Mrs. Hastings
Hon. Gwendoline Fairfax Mrs. Pemberton
Cecily Cardew Mrs. Tulloch
Miss Prism Mrs. Fitzwilliams

The band of H.M.S. *Amphitrite* formed the orchestra and played the following programme, under the direction of Bandmaster Head:—

March "Honeymoon" Rosey
Selection ... "Maid and Maid" Jones
Selection ... "Down South" Myddleton

The stage management was once more in the able hands of Mr. E. W. Mitchell, whose painstaking efforts were visible in the success obtained. Mr. H. C. Nicolle as acting manager was responsible for the excellent arrangements in front of the house. The new scenery by the staff of the A.D.C. was more than creditable; in the second and third acts especially it was all that could be desired.

The Importance of Being Earnest was repeated on the 12th, when H.E. and Mrs. May were present, and on Monday, the closing night of the present season. Packed houses witnessed both these performances, and the acting was considerably more spirited in consequence.

HONGKONG CHORAL FESTIVAL.

The third annual Choral Festival was held at St. John's Cathedral on the 15th inst. at 5 o'clock, the beautiful *Hymn of Praise*, by Mendelssohn-Bartholdy being the selection for this occasion; a somewhat ambitious essay, but its choice was more than justified by the excellent manner in which it was carried through, the performers being quite at home in their parts, whether instrumental or vocal. Last year a varied programme was selected for the festival, and that, apparently, was not a popular idea with the public of Hongkong, as the Cathedral was not nearly full, the collection amounting to but little more than a third of that of the previous year, when *The Holy City* was rendered. The attendance this year was also markedly greater, there being over 800 present, and the chorus and orchestra were of the strongest, consisting for the most part of members of the choir of St. John's Cathedral assisted by several well-known amateurs.

The Cathedral chancel had been transformed into a temporary concert-platform, while the nave and aisles were lined with extra chairs, the church being filled to its utmost capacity.

The service opened with an organ voluntary played with consummate skill by Mr. A. G. Ward, who selected "Prelude and Fugue in G." for the opening movement. A short service of prayer then followed, and then commenced the grand Symphony Cantata. The first part was executed by the entire orchestra, under the very able conductorship of Mr. G. Grimble, with Mr. A. G. Ward presiding at the organ; and in

the second part Messrs Grimble and Ward changed places. In these parts the orchestra played with an exquisite finish, showing their careful and painstaking training in orchestral playing, throughout keeping well with their conductors. No. 2 was a chorus, "All men, all things, all that has life and breath, sing to the Lord" swingingly sung by the joint choirs, who certainly showed in this, the opening chorus, what they are capable of, and what powerful songsters we possess in Hongkong. The soprano solo of Mrs. Hagen, with semi-chorus, "Praise thou the Lord, O my spirit," was tastefully rendered, while the recitative, (tenor) of Mr. H. Edwards, "Sing ye praise," was a very splendid rendering of a difficult part, and was quite one of the best of the many good things of the evening. Mr. Edwards's voice is too well known in Hongkong to need any further comment here, though never, perhaps, was he heard to greater advantage than in the grand air, "He counteth all your sorrows." "All ye that cried unto the Lord" was then rendered by the full choir with orchestral accompaniment, when Mesdames Hagen and Craddock followed, in the duet (soprano) "I waited for the Lord," which was a choice and pleasing item, though they were somewhat uncertain in their higher notes. The air and recitative (tenor) next rendered by Mr. G. P. Lammert were quite the best thing of the evening. Perfect in voice and expression, his rendering left nothing to be desired, and was a finished piece of vocalisation. Mrs. Hagen, who followed, in the solo "The night is departing" (with chorus) was again very fine and expressive, and rendered this item very pleasingly, the chorus supporting her well. The next part was that very beautiful choral, "Let all men praise the Lord," and any where else than in the sacred precincts of the Cathedral would undoubtedly have commanded an *encore*, which may also be said of the soprano and tenor duet of Miss Murray Bain and Mr. G. H. Edwards.

The chorus, "Ye nations, offer to the Lord glory," was a grand, even glorious piece of orchestration, and once again displayed the talent and power, vocal and instrumental, of our local amateurs. This closed the Cantata, and was followed by the singing, by all present, of Hymn No. 165, "O God, our help in ages past," during which a collection was made, in aid of the Choir Fund, and which amounted to \$382.32. A prayer, and the Benediction followed, when Mr. G. Grimble finally closed the Festival by a grand rendering of the organ voluntary "Allegro to Organ Sonata No. 6" (Mendelssohn).

The following formed the Chorus: Soprano: Mesdames Craddock, Hagen, Johnston, Lammert, Kew, Quinn, Seth, Wagner, Woodcock. Misses Murray Bain, Hanco, Loureiro, Seth, Shaw, Weatherston, Masters W. Hagen, R. Prasley, F. Tyler, B. Tyler, A. Godfree, A. Martin, H. Fielding, Harvey. Altos: Lady Meigh Goodman, Mesdames Dickson, Drayson, Gordon, Grimble, Piercy, Misses Goodman, Innes, Leykum. Tenors: Messrs. Danenberg, Dow, G. H. Edwards, P. W. Goldring, G. P. Lammert, C. H. Lammert, H. A. Lammert, Parker, F. S. Rayner, Rubie, Thurlow, Wagner. Basses: Messrs W. Armstrong, C. H. Beavis, F. H. Bell, Brand, Crofton, Craddock, Grigson, Hays, Hastings, Haughwout, Jenkins, L. Lammert, Symington. Soloists: Miss Murray Bain, Mrs. Craddock, Mrs. Hagen, Mr. G. H. Edwards and Mr. G. P. Lammert. Conductors and Organists, Mr. George Grimble, and Mr. A. G. Ward. Committee: Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A., Mrs. Seth, Mrs. Hagen, Mr. W. Armstrong, Mr. W. J. Terrill, Mr. A. G. Ward, and Mr. F. Hayley Bell, Hon. Secretary, and the following ladies and gentlemen composed the Orchestra: Violins:—Mrs. Ough, Miss Drew, Miss G. Bunny. Messrs. Xavier, Lopez Sydney, Schmidt, Barlow, Dominich, Rozario, Beck, Catchick, Alves, and Sergeant Jenkins, R.E. Violas:—Dr. Swan, Messrs. Gonzalez, and P. A. Rozario, Jun. Cellos:—Messrs. Miller and Koenig; Double Bass:—Mr. Sequeira. Flutes:—Messrs. Chopard, Omond and Silas. Oboe:—Mr. Anderson; Clarionets:—Messrs. Murray and Tuxford; Bass Clarionet:—Mrs. Assumpcao; Cornets:—Mr. Godwin, and Bandsmen, S.F.; Horns:—Mr. Spratt and Bandsmen, S.F.; Trombone:—Sergeant Powell

R.E.; Euphonium;—Bandsman, S.F.; Drum;—Mr. Caesar. H.E. the Officer Administering the Government and Mrs. May were present, as well as a large number of officials, nearly all the clergy at present in Hongkong being also present. The history of Mendelssohn's composing this grand work has been so often written and re-written that it were, perhaps, superfluous to re-capitulate it here. Suffice it to say it is one of his best and most favored works whenever two or three lovers of good music are gathered together for their own and the musical entertainment of others.

The performance will be repeated on Tuesday next at the same time.

NEW MEMBERS' STAND ON THE HONGKONG RACECOURSE.

A new masonry structure now takes the place of matcheds erected annually for the Hongkong races. It would be optimistic indeed to introduce the argument that because comparatively inexpensive matcheds have answered the Jockey Club's purposes, and have never caught fire during all these years, a practically fire-proof building is unnecessary. It is necessary, and has been necessary for years. Think of the consequences, if one of the many cigarette-ends carelessly thrown away ignited the dry-as-tinder matting. In almost less time than it takes to write, the whole structure would be ablaze. Independent of the great danger of fire, however, it is high time that a Jockey Club of such standing and large membership as Hongkong's should possess efficient accommodation, and the new members' stand will supply a long-felt want.

The new members' stand is a two-story building of a somewhat blunt-ended wedge shape to suit the site, which is that upon which pari-matcheds have, on previous occasions, stood—to the left of the Grand Stand. The ground floor will be used for the *pari-mutuel*. Besides three main entrances, one in front and one on each side, there are 13 small exits. Three staircases lead to the upper floors which is completely cut off from the ground floor. Another staircase, opening to the rear of the building, has been provided for servants, etc. Staircases and floors are of iron and concrete so as to be fireproof. The upstairs, in the centre of the block, will be used as a members' stand for the exclusive use of members of the Jockey Club. This is 75 feet long. Cloak rooms, lavatories and boys' rooms are at the back. On the right of the members' stand is a stand for H.E. the Governor, and a steward's stand; on the left are two private stands. These four stands are each 25 feet wide. To the rear, in each instance, are cloak rooms, lavatories, and boys' rooms. A projection is being built to the rear of the building. Horses and riders, after leaving the weighing room, will pass under this.

In appearance, the elevation in front will be somewhat similar though more ornamental than the old stand. There are seven half-timbered gables. In the centre is to be a small tower, a weather-vane surmounting it. Flagstaves will project from each of the other gables. Upper-floor stands, or verandahs so to speak, will be fitted with teak-wood hand-rails and pillars; the balustrading will be of ornamental wrought iron; while beneath, just above the level of the *pari-mutuel* exit doors, will be a number of iron barred windows. Messrs. Leigh and Orange are the architects. The new structure will be ready before the Race Meeting.

That portion of the nullah in front of the Jockey Club enclosure is to be covered over with concrete. This will afford an additional 15 feet space. The judges' box and railing are being moved forward.

The *Times of Ceylon* writes:—Our coming Governor is evidently as alive as Sir West Ridgeway to the importance of improved sanitation and of the difficulty of the task of making an Eastern municipality face the problem. Sir M. Nathan will have before him for confirmation or rejection the appointment of a body of trustees charged with the remodelling of the overcrowded parts of Victoria, Hongkong's capital. If Sir West's successor created a similar body here it would be hailed with delight.

MASONIC BANQUET.

INSTALLATION AT LODGE S. JOHN.

The Right Worshipful Deputy District Grand Master, R. Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, and officers of the District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China, on Saturday installed Wor. Bro. J. A. Tarrant as R.W.M. of lodge S. John, No. 618, S. C., in succession to W. Bro. T. H. Jewitt, who has acted as R. W. M. of Lodge S. John during the past year. The newly installed R. W. M. invested his officers as follows:—

Wor. Sen. Warden, Bro. E. A. Earby, Wor. Junior Warden, Bro. J. L. Cotter; Secretary, Wor. Bro. H. Horley, P.M.; Treasurer, Wor. Bro. H. B. Bridger, P.M.; Organist, Bro. E. C. Atkins; Senior Deacon, Bro. C. J. Tyndale Lea; Junior Deacon, Bro. W. Maxfield; Director of Ceremonies, Wor. Bro. J. Dickie, P.M.; Inner Guard, Bro. A. P. Goodwin; 1st Steward, Bro. B. Clarke; 2nd Steward, Bro. S. Handley; Tyler, Bro. J. Vanstone.

After the installation ceremony the brethren of Lodge S. John, and sister lodges, joined their non-Masonic friends in the Banqueting room attached to the Masonic Hall. The room was beautifully decorated for the occasion. A line of evergreen and flowers surrounded the main porchway. The windows inside were brilliantly decorated with bunting. Lines of greenery and flowers extended right along the centre of the banqueting tables. At the head of the table, where sat the R.W.M. was a dazzling electrical design of the square and compasses, with a G in the centre. The compasses and G were of white bulbs; the square of blue. At the opposite end of the hall was a very pretty design illuminated from the back. It showed a picture of St. Andrew surmounting a P.M.'s apron of the S.C.A. piano and raised platform were at this end of the room.

The King and the Craft, the first toast of the evening, was proposed by the R.W.M. All present rose and sang lustily the National Anthem.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was proposed by the Rt. Wor. Master.

The District Grand Master and Officers of the District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China was proposed by Wor. Bro. H. B. Bridger, P.M. Wor. Bro. Mallory responded.

Sister Lodges and Visitors was proposed by the Wor. Senior Warden, Bro. E. A. Earby. Wor. Bro. Boggs responded for sister lodges, and Mr. F. C. Barlow for visitors.

The Hongkong and South China Masonic Benevolence Fund Corporation was proposed by Wor. Bro. J. Dickie, P.M. Wor. Bro. A. O'D. Gourdin responded.

The Rt. Worshipful Master, the toast of the evening, was proposed by Wor. Bro. T. H. Jewitt, I.P.M. The R.W.M. responded.

The Wor. Immediate Past Master, Past Masters, and Retiring Officers was proposed by the Rt. Wor. Master. Wor. Bro. Jewitt responded.

Wives, Sisters, Daughters and Sweethearts of Masons was proposed by Bro. E. M. Everall.

All Poor and Distressed Masons, proposed by the Tyler, Bro. J. Vanstone.

The following was the programme of music:—

Overture. Selection from *Bells of New York*

Song "My Pretty Jane" ... Bro. Geo. Grimble

Song "The Deathless Army" ... Bro. W. Maxfield

Song (Comic) "The Horse the Miesus dries her clothes on" ... Bro. R. H. Stephenson

Oboe Solo "Selected" ... Bro. W. Anderson

Song (Characteristic) "Café Chantant" ... Mr. M. D. Silas

Violin Solo "Selected" ... Mr. F. C. Barlow

Song "Silence Reigned Supreme" ... Mr. H. S. Spurge

Song "The Veteran's Song" ... Wor. Bro. J. A. Tarrant

Recitation "Selected" ... Bro. E. O. Murphy

Song "The Longshoreman" ... Wor. Bro. H. B. Bridger

Oboe Solo "The Promise of Life" ... Bro. W. Anderson

Song (Comic) "When the gentle breezes blow" ... Bro. R. H. Stephenson

Song "Smoke, Smoke, Smoke" ... Mr. E. P. Austen

Song "O Promise Me" ... Bro. Cullum

Song (Comic) "Let go, Eliza" ... Mr. H. S. Spurge

Song "Echo" ... Bro. A. P. Goodwin

Song "This is my dream" ... Mr. W. Davies

Song "Molly mine" ... Bro. W. Maxfield

Bro. Geo. Grimble played the opening overture in his customary excellent style. Bro. Philip W. Goldring, who figured second on the programme to sing "My Pretty Jane", was, perhaps, received on the platform with more enthusiasm than anybody else. All figuring on the programme was appreciated. Bro. A. P. Goodwin, especially, rendered a good account of himself "God Save the King" terminated a most enthusiastically conducted and enjoyable function.

A NOTABLE CHINESE FUNERAL IN HONGKONG.

At the beginning of the month, at Happy Valley, there took place the funeral of one of the great Reformers of China. Hung Chuen Fook was laid to his rest. His has been a troublous career. About midday there might have been seen wending its way to Happy Valley a magnificent hearse and pair in handsome trappings. As it passed along Queen's Road towards the Protestant Cemetery, one heard pedestrians query, "Who's dead?" and the people wondered at the strange cortege and its escort. It has now transpired that that hearse contained the mortal remains of Hung Chuen Fook, alias Sam Chin Shiu ("Prince Three Thousand Years"), the great Taiping warrior general, and nephew of Hung Shau Chuen, the "Taiping Wang." It may be remembered that Hung Chuen Fook was the chief military organiser of the formidable revolutionary movement of the "League of Patriots" (commonly known as "Triads," and by various other names), which rising was planned to take place on Chinese New Year's Eve at Canton.

When the plot was exposed Hung left for the Straits Settlements. After a short sojourn there he returned to Hongkong in order to reorganise his men for another attempt. But Fate would have it otherwise, as he returned to this Colony only to die. Shortly after his return, it is reported, he began to feel unwell. Ceaseless worry and chagrin and disappointment at his failure quickly brought the brave, fearless old warrior to his deathbed, and he was very soon beyond all medical help. It is reported that the British Government, having been informed of his presence in the Colony, kindly consented to have him removed to the Government Civil Hospital for proper medical treatment. There he lingered for about a fortnight before he expired. Hung Chuen Fook was 69 years of age when he died.

Owing to the presence of emissaries of the Chinese Government in Hongkong the friends and sympathisers of the Revolutionary cause in South China thought it wise to stay away from the funeral. Hung is dead, but his deeds will survive him.

Arriving at the cemetery, the coffin was lowered into the grave in the presence of representatives of the Detective Staff and Police, who acted as escort to the funeral. Hung was a Christian and dressed in European style. At the age of 18 he was the leader of 10,000 troops and fought many sanguinary battles around Nanking with the Imperial troops under Tseng Kwok and Li Hung Chang. After the fall of Nanking, which ended the hopes of the "Taipings" to restore a Chinese government, the young "Prince" left for the United States.

Ever since then he had been travelling about in all parts of the world, gaining knowledge and experience as he grew in years, and fondly hoping and praying for the day when it would be his duty to take up his sword again in the cause of Reform and the freedom and independence of the great Chinese race from the rule of the Manchus.

It is said that if the New Year plot had not been disclosed by the Canton spies in the employ of the Chinese Government, the whole of South China would by now have been declared independent or a British Protectorate in preference to French rule.

In the death of Hung Chuen Fook, China has lost a true patriot and the Manchus have lost a formidable and dangerous foe. But, although he has gone, he has left a host of capable lieutenants who are only burning for an opportunity to emulate his valorous deeds. The seeds of a great revolution have already

been sown, and it is left for time to say when they will germinate, grow, and fructify. It is evident that the twentieth century will be notable for world-convulsing events in China and the Pacific, the future area of the struggle for the survival of the fittest.—Contributed.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 15th December.

RIOT ON THE RAILWAY.

On Sunday evening it was given out that there had been a riot of considerable proportion on the newly-opened railway. The first report was that the guards (large numbers of whom are stationed along the line) had been ill-treating and squeezing the coolies, who had at length arisen and punished their oppressors. Later reports state that this was not the case, but that the coolies quarrelled among themselves and when their blood was up started to loot and burn everything within sight. A construction shed was burnt down, and several of the European staff had to escape by swimming from their house-boats, and sustained loss of valuables. Two of the combatant coolies were killed, and many injured. The whole affair appears to have arisen in one of those unaccountable outbursts of excitement which seem to occur periodically among the Chinese coolie class.

Later details as to the fracas are that it took place some few miles above Faishan. The two persons killed were not coolies, but Chinese women, who were unfortunate enough to fall in the way of the maddened mob.

THE FATE OF CAPTAIN YANG.

The career of Yang, captain of the Shameen guard, has at length been brought to a close by his dismissal from his position; he has furthermore been deprived of all his titles and dignities, and is compelled to retire into private life for (so the Cantonese junk people hope) the remainder of his days. At the same time the dismissal is announced of another official of higher rank than Yang, but less known to foreigners. The Viceroy has not departed from the policy of weeding-out, to which attention was drawn repeatedly some few months ago.

TELEPHONE IN CANTON.

For some time the institution of a telephone system in Canton has been talked of, but now at last it is a *fait accompli*, the working being in the hands of the Imperial authorities, who charge at the very moderate rate of \$4000 per mensem. All the large yamens will have the advantage of this new de-arture, and many large dealers and banks will also be provided for. Canton is indeed going ahead. It may not be generally known that some years ago the telephone was started in Shameen, but very high charges were made and the thing proved a failure.

CANTON REGATTA.

The regatta will be held on Friday and Saturday next, the 18th and 19th inst. A long and varied programme has been published; and both spectators and competitors will no doubt have two most enjoyable afternoons. The racing will begin at 1 p.m. on each day. The first race will be the Hong Pair Oars—for a cup presented by Mr. E. Gilchrist, of the Imperial Maritime Customs. For this race there are six entries. There are also International Pairs, a sculling race, which will be certain to produce some good sport, and many lesser races. The chief events are of course the International and Open Fours. The German crew has been unfortunate enough to lose their bow within ten days of the regatta, but on the whole they have been together for a longer period than the British four, so that a good race is anticipated. As to the Open Fours, Hongkong sportsmen will be better posted as to the crews than we of Canton, but it is understood that the Hongkong Rowing Club are sending up a very good crew, in which case Canton will stand a poor chance.

The course will be above Wong Sha—that is, between Belcher's Island and the right bank of the Pearl River. The officers of the U.S. monitor *Monterey* have kindly consented to have the course measured, and the Harbour authorities will keep it clear, so that, given fine

weather, a most enjoyable regatta should be held on a piece of water which cannot be equalled in the old country.

FOOCHOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Foochow, 12th December.

WINTER RACE MEETING.

The Foochow Winter Race Meeting has on the whole been a successful one. Bright sunshine favoured us throughout, and there were some most exciting finishes; whilst the defeat of Conon in the Champions, for which he was so unanimously and easily favourite, formed a most exciting climax. The griffins were perhaps disappointing, and Mr. Reynell's Shanghai pony *Frolic* through going lame after the Foochow Stakes took a very good place-pony chance, if not winner, from the Champions. It was the most widely expressed opinion of the meeting that the weak feature of the races was the lack of jockeys, and it must be confessed, the very indifferent riding of those jockeys who were good enough after all to help us out of the rather hopeless position of having only one real local rider. It is invidious to pass further comments perhaps, but this year our friends did not seem in form, and in some instances showed an absolute lack of control over their mounts. May they have better luck next year, and may we have a few more of them! Shanghai was most generous, but we had not a single jockey from Hongkong, and no visitors either from such a large sporting community. Among "mere" visitors we noticed Mr. and Mrs. Willis from Swatow, and Messrs. Marshall, Thomas, and Hempel from Amoy. Visitors who might have come by sea *Haitan* would have seen every race of the meeting. The Race Ball was held at the Club last night and was a great success. We had the Viceroy's Band, a very useful and too captiously criticised institution. Mr. G. Balloch lent his Apollo, which was attached to a piano kindly lent by a lady resident, and a second one lent by Mr. C. B. Rickett was also requisitioned. Mr. G. Siemssen's Race tiffin takes place to-morrow at Kuliang, and will doubtless prove as usual a most delightful finale to the meeting.

PORT ARTHUR.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

1st December.

SITUATION UNCHANGED.

The situation here remains unchanged. The fleet is here, ready, waiting; and ever since the arrival of the 27th and 28th East Siberian Regiments which I spoke of in my last letter, the preparations of the military (preparations carried out, I daresay, more with an eye to a certain winter than an uncertain war) go on briskly. The same cannot be said, I am afraid, of the negotiations in Tokyo, but, in case these negotiations break down, it can hardly be said that Japan would be in a better position to fight than she was a month ago. At any rate this is an ominous season in which to wage war with Russia. In November, 1483, the Tartars were vanquished by the terrible Russian winter and their domination passed away for ever; on 26th November, 1812, commenced the terrible passage of the Bersina.

At the time of writing, snow covers all the landscape and the cutting north-east wind which will continue blowing till next March would alone make the landing of a large force at any exposed and out-of-the-way point along this bleak coast a difficult matter. I think I may safely venture to prophesy that there will be no trouble here until next spring at any rate.

NO COMBINATION AGAINST JAPAN.

Japan may feel easy, however, on one point. There is no combination against her as there was in 1895. The *Novi Krai* reassures her on this point. "The Japanese Press" it says, "seems to be uneasy lest she be confronted by the triple combination of Russia, France, and Germany which opposed her in 1895. . . . In the disordered imagination of the Japanese, the slightest cloud on their political horizon takes

the form of a coalition of the Europeans against the seizure by the Japanese of Cora.

"But what mistakes the Japanese Press sometimes falls into! In the present instance, the fact of the matter is that a union with Germany for common action in the Far East would be anything but advantageous for Russia. It seems to us to be very probable that the change which has already taken place in international politics in the near East will extend to the Far East, but it will not consist in Germany drawing closer to France and Russia. It must not be forgotten that the Near and Far Easts have a common connection. A rapprochement between Russia and Germany for action in the Near and Far Easts would only be to the detriment of England, as the Japanese papers point out, but the interests of Russian and British Governments now coincide on many points not only in the Far East but also in the Near East, as we have already pointed out more than once. Far-seeing statesmen understand this, but unfortunately the masses have not been sufficiently enlightened on this subject.

TO THROW LIGHT ON THE QUESTION.

"In order, therefore, to throw light on this question as far as possible and at the same time to show the Japanese Press the groundlessness of its alarm, we shall permit ourselves to say a few words about the colonial policy which Germany has pursued of late years in the Near East." The Port Arthur paper then points out how Germany has gone rather against Russia in the matter of the Bagdad railway and seems to think that a Russo-Franco-German combination against Japan is not likely to take place in the near future.

THE CHINESE EASTERN RAILWAY.

The *Novi Krai* has published a series of articles from one of its staff who has lately been all through Manchuria making investigations. In these articles a bad account is given of the state of things along the railway line, especially in the Chinese town of Harbin, where Russian Jews are accused of first pandering to every depraved taste of some passengers and then fleecing the latter unmercifully. It is suggested that order be maintained by gendarmes placed under the direct control of the Viceroy and having no connection with the railway company.

Port Arthur, 6th December.

UNREST IN CHINA.

The recent slight display of anti-Russian activity on the part of China is exciting some anxiety here, the reports that have come to hand lately of the movements of the Chinese troops in the south of Manchuria being of a nature to cause alarm. These rumours have not yet been fully confirmed, but, on the other hand, it is a fact that the Russian Military Club at Harbin was burnt to the ground on the night of the 1st December.

MORE TROUBLE IN CHEMULPO.

Another *fracas* seems to have occurred in Chemulpo, and two Russian warships have been despatched from Port Arthur to that port. No news as to the nature of the affray has as yet leaked out. The Russians feel very sore about the last row in Chemulpo, of which a presumably impartial authority, a German, gives the following account. Some Japanese establishment was celebrating its opening day, and when some Russian liberty men happened to stroll into the vicinity they were invited to partake of the cup that cheers and also inebriates. After partaking, one of them got up and tried to buy some cigarettes at a stall in the premises, but, owing to the stall-keeper not understanding his gestures, he received instead of cigarettes a blow across the face with a bag said to contain stones. Thus the row began.

The Japanese police and population are allowed to have done their best to make short work of the Russian sailors, who were very much inferior in number to their opponents, and a steam-launch belonging to the Shosen Yusen Kaisha is alleged to have made a determined attempt to run down the Russian boat, which was the only means of escape the Russians had. An Englishman is alleged to have pointed a loaded gun at the Russians while the row was going on. A Japanese officer seized the gun, but on the owner informing him that he wanted to shoot, not the Japanese, as the officer seemed to imagine, but their

opponents, and this because his wife was, he said, a Japanese, the officer allowed him to do as he pleased. Some other Englishmen came along, however, and prevented him from firing. What truth there is in this yarn I cannot of course say. I have seen the story in manuscript. That is all I know about it.

HOUSE-SEARCHING.

Judging from the facts before me, I should say that the Japanese who insisted on searching Russian houses for two very drunken Russian sailors who had been left behind (but whose friends managed to get them off in a boat from another part of the shore) committed an indiscretion that might have had very serious consequences. In the first place the men might possibly have been murdered if they had been discovered, and in the second place blood might have been spilt if the Russians had resisted. Luckily the Russian consulate was closed owing to the absence of the Consul in Seoul, and the manager of the local branch of the Chinese Eastern Railway made no objection to his premises being searched; in fact he courteously showed his unwelcome guests over the whole establishment, which was thoroughly ransacked, to the terror of the agent's wife and children. Admiral Alexieff is said to have censured the captain of the Russian gunboat which was lying off Chemulpo at the time for not landing armed men to protect the houses of the Russian residents from being thus violated, and the captain ought of course to have done so, although trouble would almost certainly have ensued if he had.

S. ANDREW'S DAY.

S. Andrew's Day, 1903, was celebrated in Port Arthur in a manner that history should not perhaps overlook. There were five persons present, one of them a Scotsman (Mr. Gilchrist, engineer with Messrs. Suwaroff and Co).

THE VICEROY'S TOUR.

The Viceroy is expected to leave here within a few days and to return in two months, by which time the Manchurian question will in all probability be settled peacefully, if a rupture has not occurred. If a rupture does then occur it will be in spring, just about the right time from Japan's point of view, for of course a struggle in the winter months would be a most disagreeable affair.

THE WEATHER.

Last Sunday I stood for the first time this year on ice which was "bearing," and from this the reader may judge of the temperature here. It is bitterly cold, especially at night, when a biting wind blows from the north-east, but there is not much snow. New troops seem to be continually coming in, and a few days ago a large body of sailors arrived. They will find splendid quarters provided for them in the new Naval Barracks, buildings which compare favourably with anything of the same kind in all Asia.

A VISITOR FROM INDIA.

Sir D. Mackenzie Wallace, author of many books upon Russia and a master of the Russian tongue, was in Manchuria some time back investigating matters there. He is now Secretary to Lord Curzon, and it is not improbable that the Viceroy of India was curious to know what the Viceroy of the Far East is doing. It is not impossible that the British advance in Tibet is taken at this juncture in view of Russia's difficulties in Manchuria and as a reward for England's neutrality. English papers may deny that England is neutral in this Manchuria affair, but the *Novi Krii* describes England's position as one of correct neutrality and seems gratified in consequence.

The first general meeting of the new Singapore Cold Storage Company was held on the 9th inst. in Singapore, when the chairman announced that all the capital had been subscribed, and tenders were to be called for the erection of buildings, the company being now ready to proceed with business. On account of the high estimates so far received, it was considered advisable to postpone consideration of tenders, as the prices for labour and material were showing a downward tendency. The material for the insulation work was to be imported from Australia where lower rates prevailed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DIOCESAN GIRLS' SCHOOL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

December 14th, 1903.

Sir,—With your kind permission, I should like to call the attention of your readers to the advertisement of the above school which appears in your columns of this issue.

It will be remembered that as the result of a public meeting held nearly five years ago a sufficient sum of money was obtained to justify the promoters of the school in securing the lease of a house—Rose Villa, West—in which the work of the school has been carried on since February, 1900. In November of the same year a lady superintendent—Miss E. D. Skipton, B.A.—and an assistant-superintendent—Miss M. I. Hawker—arrived in the Colony from England, and under their management the school quickly grew until it was found impossible to increase the number of boarders owing to lack of accommodation. This state of affairs lasted until quite recently, but when within the last few weeks the adjoining house—Rose Villa, East—fell vacant the committee decided that this opportunity of doubling the accommodation should not be missed, and promptly took the house, thus securing the whole block for the purposes of the Diocesan Girls' School. Up to the present the committee, which is largely composed of ladies, and of which the Bishop of Victoria is chairman, have felt that owing to lack of accommodation it was useless to make any great effort to make the existence of the school more widely known; but they now desire to call the attention of the public to the many advantages which this school offers.

The first object of the school is to provide a Christian training and education for girls of European and mixed parentage, and the committee are always prepared to consider applications for the admission of orphans and children in necessitous circumstances. The education given is an ordinary English elementary education, arranged in accordance with the Government grant-in-aid scheme. The girls are also trained in household duties, and are taught to make most of their own clothes and to keep them in order. The fees, including tuition, board, laundry, and clothing for girls under fifteen, are \$20 a month; while for tuition only the fees are \$3 a month. The vacations are—one month about February, varying with the Chinese New Year; six weeks in July and August; a few days at Christmas and Easter. Application for admission should be made to the Lady Superintendent, by whom further information will be supplied, at the Diocesan Girls' School, Rose Villas, Booham Road, Hongkong.—I am, sir, etc.,

F. JOHNSON.
St. John's Cathedral.

EWO COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LD.

The following is the report of the above company for presentation at the eighth ordinary meeting to be held at the office of the general managers on the 21st December at 3.30 p.m.

The general managers have pleasure in submitting a statement of accounts to 31st October, 1903, showing the result of twelve months' working to that date.

The native cotton crop of 1902 was an exceptionally good one both as regards quantity and quality, but owing to heavy exports to Japan and Europe the price was maintained at a high level throughout the year, notwithstanding which, however, the mill was able to sell its entire production at a profit.

The balance at credit of profit and loss account after writing off the debit shown in previous account of Tls. 4,215.88 amounts to Tls. 71,655.03, which it is proposed should be dealt with as follows:—

To pay a dividend of 8 per cent. on the paid up capital of the company.
Say Tels 4 per share on 15,000...Tls. 60,000.00

Carry forward to new account 11,655.03

Tls. 71,655.03

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Hung Dah has resigned his seat on the Committee, and the vacancy has not, so far, been filled. In accordance with Article XVII. the members retire, but all are eligible and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

Mr. Wingrove has audited the company's accounts, and his re-election to the position requires the confirmation of shareholders.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

31st October, 1903.

LIABILITIES.	Tls. cts.
Capital—Authorized 20,000 shares at Tls. 50 each—Tls. 1,000,000; subscribed 15,000 shares at Tls. 50 each	750,000.00
Jardine, Matheson & Co.....	897,000.00
Accounts payable	18,815.91
Undivided dividends	196.00
Sundry creditors	1,010.44
Profit and loss account	71,655.03

Tls. 1,228,677.38

ASSETS.

ASSETS.	Tls. cts.
Property	138,669.85
Buildings	291,170.42
Plant	863,856.45
Water supply	4,220.81
Furniture	3,443.37
Mill stores	11,351.02
Cotton stock	96,383.52
Cotton and yarn in process	30,493.68
Yarn stock	250,291.21
Unexpired fire insurance premia	6,053.16
Rates and taxes	860.30
Accounts receivable	7,238.50
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	699.73
Cash with compradore	713.31
Advances against seed cotton	23,737.05

Tls. 1,228,677.38

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls. cts.
To balance from last year	4,215.88
To interest	21,704.79
To fire insurance	17,967.11
To rates and taxes	1,924.47
To repairs and renewals	20,354.00
To directors' fees	3,000.00
To auditor's fees	250.00
To provision for legal expenses, &c. in connection with reduction in capital	1,800.00
To general managers' commission on net profits 10 per cent. on Tls. 84,301.01	8,430.10
To balance	71,655.03

Tls. 151,302.28

Cr.

Cr.	Tls. cts.
By balance of working account	151,270.28
By transfer fees	32.00

Tls. 151,302.28

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 14th December.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A. G. WISE (PUNISH JUDGE).

LAND COURT APPEAL CASES.

On 23rd November, the hearing was begun of appeals by the Crown against two decisions of the Land Court. In one Lam Tseung Fuk and Lam Tak Luk claimed a tract of foreshore and sea-bed extending from the old boundary of British Kowloon for a distance 1½ miles in front of Kowloon City and Chinwan, and completely blocking access to the sea over that distance. In the other Ho Lap Hun claimed 62½ mow of land extending from Kowloon City to Lyseemun for about 2½ miles along the shore. The case of Lam Tseung Fuk and Lam Tak Luk was first called. Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. B. Deacon, of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, solicitors), appeared, first, for two parties who were applying to be joined to the proceedings as respondents and who claimed to have an interest in it as having purchased the land. After hearing counsel their Lordships dismissed the application with costs.

Subsequently there was filed a petition for leave to appeal to the Privy Council against the decision of the Court.

The case was called as follows:—

In the matter of the New Territories Land Court Ordinance, 1900, and the Ordinances amending the same, and in the matter of certain claims to land in the New Territory known as Claim U, Survey District No. 1, and Claim K, Survey District No. 2: petition for leave to appeal to the Privy Council.

There was no appearance for the petitioners.

The Hon. Attorney-General Sir Henry S. Berkeley (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor) appeared for the Crown. He said—Your Lordships, I had intended to appear in opposition to this application, but I understand, from notice received, that the appellants do not desire to go on with the application for leave to appeal to the Privy Council.

The Chief Justice—As there is no one appearing in support of the petition, the appeal is dismissed. You do not ask for costs?

The Attorney-General—No; I do not ask for costs.

The appeal was accordingly dismissed.
The Court rose.

Tuesday, 15th December.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM
M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

DISPUTE ABOUT THE BUILDING OF TWO
STEAMSHIPS.

Evidence was closed in the case in which Tso Cheung Shi, widow, 162, Queen's Road West, suing as executrix of Tso Cheung Po deceased, claims from To Shing, 22, Peel Street, \$28,000 money received and \$2,000 damages for breach of contract in respect to the building of two steamships. Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, of Messrs. Denny and Bowley, solicitors), appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors), was for the defendant.

His Lordship reserved judgment.

Thursday, 17th December.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM
M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A CHINESE BANKRUPT SENT TO PRISON.

Man Tsit applied for his discharge in bankruptcy. Mr. Bruce Shepherd, the Official Receiver, said there were no assets.

The bankrupt stated that he entered into partnership with three others as a building contractor, putting in \$3,300 as his share. On the first contract that they entered into there was a loss of \$7,000, and on the second \$4,000. He knew nothing about the building trade. After this the firm continued to trade, but did not take on any new work. He borrowed \$2,000 from Indian money-lenders to pay his debts. He did not tell them that he was in financial difficulties. When the loss was incurred in the business he did not know of it.

His Lordship—It was your duty to know about the business if you were a partner.

The bankrupt also stated that when he borrowed the money he was expecting payment of some commission from an European firm. He took a lease of certain property from Messrs. David & Co. at \$10,200 a year as a speculation.

His Lordship said that a man who had no money had no right to enter into a speculation of \$10,000 a year. He was satisfied not only from reading the report of the Official Receiver, but from reading the bankrupt's own statement made in Court at his public examination, that he had continued to trade after he knew he was insolvent, and certainly incurred debts without having at the time any reasonable or probable ground or expectation of being able to pay. Under the circumstances, his Lordship said, he would suspend the operation of the order of discharge for 12 months and would summarily sentence the bankrupt to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

DISPUTE ABOUT BUILDING A THEATRE.

The Yow Lee firm sued Tsoi Tsung for \$965.47, being balance due for work done and materials supplied in respect of the buildings on Marine Lot 185. Mr. E. J. Grist, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. R. Harding, solicitor, for the defendant.

Mr. Grist stated that the defendant was a contractor and had contracted to build a theatre on this lot. Plaintiffs were sub-contractors. Defendant had engaged the plaintiff to do certain work on this lot, and he had done it. He had been paid money from time to time, but there was this balance outstanding.

After hearing part of the evidence, his Lordship adjourned the case till to-day.

THE INQUEST ON SERGEANT MANN.

Adjourned from Friday last, the inquest into the cause of death of Sergeant Mann, was resumed at the Magistracy on Tuesday, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith presiding.

Sergeant John Baines, R.A., sworn, said he remembered the 4th inst. He did not recognise the carbine (produced) as belonging to the deceased. The carbines were all laid out on the Library table at Stonecutters'. There he examined them and found them unloaded. He could not make any suggestion as to how Sergt. Mann got any ammunition. He heard that Sergt. Mann was sick, and when he awakened him up he thought he was suffering from the effects of drink.

Captain Parker, R.A.M.C., deposed that Sergt. Mann was admitted into hospital on 16th December, 1902. He was discharged on 6th January, 1903, and attended the hospital for treatment till 13th July. Sergt. Mann appeared to him to be a very quiet, decent man, a very unlikely person to commit suicide.

His Worship found that death was due to a bullet shot in the head, the wound being self-inflicted.

FOOCHOW RACES.

The following are the complete results:—
FIRST DAY, 8TH DECEMBER.

- 1.—The Stewards Cup.— $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.
Mr. Min's Adrian (Oswald) ... 1
Mr. Vickers's The Miner (Zahn) ... 2
Mr. Dragoman's Cairo (Schnorr) ... 3
Time 61-1/5. Won by $\frac{1}{2}$ length; 3 lengths between 2nd and 3rd.
- 2.—The Maiden Stakes.— $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.
Mr. Madagascar's Blancador (Zahn) ... 1
Mr. Irish's Promotion (Schnorr) ... 2
Mr. Cosmos's Chaos (Pearson) ... 3
Time 1.39. Won by short neck; bad 3rd.
- 3.—The Totalisator Cup.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
Capt. Hope's Conon (Crighton) ... 1
Mr. Taiwo's Hermes (Schnorr) ... 2
Mr. Oswald's Hidalgo (Oswald) ... 3
Time 3.16. Won in an easy canter by several lengths.
- 4.—The Min Stakes.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
Capt. Hope's Conon (Crighton) ... 1
Mr. Cosmos's Chaos (Zahn) ... 2
Mr. Vickers's The Sapper (Schnorr) ... 3
Time 2.57. Won by short head.
- 5.—The "C. B. R." Cup.—1 mile.
Mr. Taiwo's Frolic (Zahn) ... 1
Mr. Oswald's Sirius (Oswald) ... 2
Mr. Stella's Alkor (Webster) ... 3
Time 2.10 2/5. A very close finish between first 3 ponies.
- 6.—The Hack Stakes.— $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.
Mr. Stella's Alkor (Webster) ... 1
Mr. Pearson's Coronet (Pearson) ... 2
Mr. Pattenham's Merrylegs (Schnorr) ... 3
Time 1.46. Won easily by several lengths.
- 7.—The Teamens' Cup.—Twice round and a distance.
Mr. Min's Adrian (Oswald) ... 1
Mr. Taiwo's Hermes (Zahn) ... 2
Mr. Dorset's Blancmange (Schnorr) ... 3
Times 3.07. Won by 3 lengths.
- 8.—The Mandarin's Cup.—Seven Furlongs.
Capt. Hope's Hercules (Crighton) ... 1
Mr. Stella's Alkor (Webster) ... 2

Mr. Irish's Promotion (Schnorr) ... 3
Time 1.58. Won easily.

SECOND DAY, 9TH DECEMBER.

- 1.—The "Dizzy" Cup.—1 mile.
Mr. Irish's Promotion (Schnorr) ... 1
Mr. Min's Irresistible (Oswald) ... 2
Mr. Vickers's The Sapper (Zahn) ... 3
Time 2.17. Close finish; fine riding by Oswald.
- 2.—The Big Sweep Cup.—Seven Furlongs.
Capt. Hope's Conon (Crighton) ... 1
Mr. Oswald's Hidalgo (Oswald) ... 2
Mr. Dragoman's Cairo (Schnorr) ... 3
Time 1.53. Won very easily $\frac{1}{2}$ mile; length between 2nd and 3rd.
- 3.—The Haekwan Cup.—Once round.
Mr. Oswald's Uncle (Oswald) ... 1
Mr. Madagascar's Blancador (Zahn) ... 2
Capt. Hope's Hercules (Crighton) ... 3
Time 1.24. A close finish, Oswald again distinguishing himself.
- 4.—The Hongkong Cup.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
Mr. Stella's Alkor (Zahn) ... 1
Mr. Dorset's Blancmange (Schnorr) ... 2
Mr. Taiwo's Hermes (Crighton) ... 3
Time 3.28. Half length between 1st and 2nd.
- 5.—The Chaasze Cup.— $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.
Mr. Pattenham's Ace of Hearts (Schnorr) ... 1
Mr. Oswald's Sirius (Oswald) ... 2
Mr. Madagascar's Malgache (Zahn) ... 3
Time 1.37. Won by $\frac{1}{2}$ length.
- 6.—The Compradore's Cup.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
Mr. Cosmos's Chaos (Oswald) ... 1
Mr. Stella's Alkor (Webster) ... 2
Mr. Dorset's Blancmange (Zahn) ... 3
Time 3.32. Won by a length.
- 7.—The Foochow Stakes.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
Capt. Hope's Conon (Crighton) ... 1
Mr. Min's Adrian (Oswald) ... 2
Mr. Taiwo's Frolic (Zahn) ... 3
Time 2.45. Won easily. Conon led from start to finish.

THIRD DAY, 10TH DECEMBER.

- 1.—The Club Cup.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
Mr. Min's Irresistible (Oswald) ... 1
Mr. Vickers's The Sapper (Zahn) ... 2
Capt. Hope's Hercules (Crighton) ... 3
Time 2.54 3/5. Won easily by 2 lengths; bad 3rd.
- 2.—The "Captain Hope" Challenge Cup.—1 mile.
Mr. Min's Adrian (Oswald) ... 1
Mr. Pattenham's Ace of Hearts (Schnorr) ... 2
Mr. Dragoman's Cairo (Zahn) ... 3
Time 2.12 1/5. Won very easily.
- 3.—The Ladies' Purse.— $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.
Mr. Madagascar's Blancador (Zahn) ... 1
Mr. Cosmos's Chaos (Pearson) ... 2
Mr. Oswald's Uncle (Oswald) ... 3
Time 1.40. Won easily by several lengths.
- 4.—The Ledger Cup.— $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.
Mr. Vickers's The Miner (Zahn) ... 1
Mr. Dragoman's Cairo (Schnorr) ... 2
Mr. Stella's Uran (Webster) ... 3
Time 1.37. Won by several lengths; $\frac{1}{2}$ length between 2nd and 3rd.
- 5.—The Manchu Stakes.—Once round.
Mr. Stella's Alkor (Zahn) ... 1
Mr. Vickers's The Sapper (Schnorr) ... 2
Mr. Brady's The Squire (Crighton) ... 3
Time 1.23 1/5. Won by 3 lengths.
- 6.—The Consolation Cup.—1 mile.
Mr. Oswald's Sirius (Oswald) ... 1
Mr. Dorset's Blancmange (Schnorr) ... 2
Mr. Madagascar's Malgache (Zahn) ... 3
Time 2.11. Won in an easy canter. Sirius led start to finish.
- 7.—The Champion Stakes.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
Mr. Stella's Alkor (Zahn) ... 1
Capt. Hope's Conon (Crighton) ... 2
Mr. Min's Adrian (Oswald) ... 3
Time 2.43. Conon led shortly after start. End of 1st mile Adrian and Alkor were close up. Alkor challenged Conon at last $\frac{1}{2}$ mile post and passed him before straight. Won by 3 lengths. Adrian almost catching Conon on the post. The rest of field was: Chaos, Blancador, Miner.

The *Sin Wan Pao* states that when the British expedition recently entered Tibet, the Viceroy of Szechuan wired to Peking for instructions and received a reply requiring him to pacify the Tibetans and do nothing to injure the friendly relations existing between Great Britain and China.

VICTORIA REGATTA.

On Thursday, the 17th inst., the Victoria Regatta closed. The Regatta on the whole must be regarded as a success, though, perhaps the "clerk of the weather" did not do all that might have been expected. It was too breezy, and decidedly chilly, on the opening day, a fresh nor-wester bringing down rare air from higher latitudes, and with it the unpleasant moisture brought about by more or less sultry weather reported by arrivals from Shanghai and other northern ports. On Wednesday afternoon the yachts competing in the sailing events experienced half a gale, taking in a deal of water; towards the close of that day an unpleasant drizzle set in, and so threatening did the outlook appear that large numbers of the sampan population, thinking a typhoon was at hand, took refuge in Yaumati Bay. Captain G. Cowlishaw deserves a deal of credit for his practically irreplaceable contribution—the loan of the sailing-ship *Brilliant* for a flag-ship. The band of the 110th Mahratta Light Infantry, under the direction of Mr. A. S. Tuxford, enlivened the proceedings. The V.R.C. is a very representative club, but, at the same time, many thought a conjunction with the Boat Club in regard to the regatta, as last year, would have been an improvement. The Boat Club put on very strong crews in the Hongkong Challenge Cup and International Race. In one boat, the English crew, Warre was an old Oxford stroke. The attendance at the regatta was excellent. H.E. the Officer Administering the Government, Commodore C. G. Robinson, R.N., Lieut.-Col. L. F. Brown, R.E., and many other most prominent residents taking part in events. Of the officers, perhaps Mr. Harold C. Austen was hardest worked; in fact he seemed to be everywhere at the same time. Mr. Geo. P. Lammert, very particular about half-seconds, was an enthusiastic timekeeper. The Judges, Messrs. E. W. Mitchell and A. Chapman, and Lieut. Crawford, R.N., carried out their onerous duties to the complete satisfaction of all concerned. So, indeed, did the umpires and starters, Messrs. Hutton Potts, G. H. Grace, Hon. G. Stewart, and Lieut. P. H. Campbell, R.E. Lieutenant Campbell is the secretary of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club; it is hard to say how the regatta could have done without him. On Thursday a cool breeze blew from the N.W. and the sky continued dull and overcast for some time, but it brightened up later. Mr. Osborne, of the Kowloon Hotel, was caterer; he conducted the refreshments in the ablest manner. Launch service between the *Brilliant* and Blake Pier was good. A man-of-war pinnace, that from the *Vengeance*, kindly lent by Commodore Robinson, was moored on the starboard side of the *Brilliant* to fire the finishing reports; a Hotchkiss gun was used for the purpose.

The first day's results were as follows:—

LIGHT GIGS.—1 p.m.—Open to European non-commissioned officers and men of any regiment or corps of the garrison or to European crews of any of H. M. vessels or to European members of the police forces. Entrance, \$1. Distance, one mile. Boats to be approved of by the committee. Time allowance, 8 seconds per oar. Four boats must start for 2 prizes. 1st prize, \$15; 2nd prize, \$10. (Post entries.) Service oars and conditions.

The destroyer *Otter* was the only ship represented. This crew went over the course.

Time, 6 minutes 31 seconds.

H. K. CHALLENGE CUP.—1.30 p.m.—For Four-oars. Cup presented by His Excellency F. H. May, C.M.G. The cup to become the property of the club, or unit of His Majesty's Forces, which wins it 3 times in succession or 5 times in all. Amateur crews representative of any Amateur Rowing, Boating, Yachting or Aquatic Club in Hongkong or China, or of any portion of His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces stationed in Hongkong or China, to be eligible to compete. Distance, one-mile-and-a-half. Entrance, \$10.

HONGKONG BOAT CLUB.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, C. McL. Messer ...	12	4
2 C. Beavis ...	12	6
3 A. Rouse ...	11	13
St. F. Warre ...	12	7
Cox, F. C. Barlow ...	10	0

HONGKONG BOAT CLUB.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, A. Foelke ...	10	13
2 H. Brandes ...	13	10
3 C. Brehmer ...	12	5
St. W. Koehler ...	11	13
Cox, B. Siebs ...	10	0

V. R. C.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, F. Bain ...	9	4
2 G. Rubie ...	10	0
3 C. Hanco ...	11	11
St. A. Alves ...	11	6
Cox, C. Alves ...	10	0

All starters set off on somewhat even footing, but the V.R.C. crew soon commenced to lag. The water being choppy, boats took in quite a deal of water. Koehler and Warre continued level for some time; Warre's crew, however, pulling more evenly than the others. At the mile post, Warre's crew commenced to draw ahead. The V.R.C. lost ground steadily throughout the race; in fact they must have dropped about half a mile or so behind. Warre's crew finished a length and three-quarters ahead of Koehler's. The winning crew, by the way, represents England in the International to day; the second crew Germany.

Time, 10 minutes 32 seconds.

HARBOUR POLICE.—2 p.m.—Open to the Chinese Members of the Harbour Police. To be rowed in the Service Boats. Distance, one mile. Entrance, 50 cents. First prize, \$10; second prize, \$4. Three boats to start for two prizes.

Station 1. Launch Crew Boat No. 3, Water Police
" 2, Cox ... 410 " 1, "
" 4, Cox ... 402 " 2, "

Kwok Kau was cox of the winning boat; Wong Yun Sung of the second boat, and Li Yun of the other. Kwok Kau won by a length.

Time, 10 minutes 43 seconds.

GERMAN CUP.—2.30 p.m.—Open. Presented by the members of the Club Germania. For four-oars. Distance, one mile. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Competing Club or Unit.

THISTLE.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, A. Asger ...	9	4
2 J. Alves ...	10	1
3 L. Musso ...	11	4
St. J. Millar ...	10	10
Cox, F. White ...	10	0

KORNBLUME.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, N. Alves ...	9	12
2 A. Loureiro ...	10	0
3 H. Austen ...	13	0
St. A. Alves ...	11	6
Cox, S. Seth ...	10	0

ROSE.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, F. Bain ...	9	4
2 G. Rubie ...	10	0
3 R. Witchell ...	10	9
St. E. Herbst ...	10	0
Cox, H. Bain ...	10	0

Shamrock was scratched, so there were only three starters. Roza Pereira and J. Hanco were unable to attend. C. Hanco, the stroke, was game to pull with griffin substitutes, but the other strokes rather unsportsmanlike objected. Choppy water greatly retarded the progress of the contestants. *Thistle* made a poor start; *Kornblume*, it appeared, got the best. *Rose* drew ahead, but, unhappily, had to alter its course for a junk. After half a mile there was hardly a length between the three boats. *Kornblume*, the centre boat, then drew ahead. *Thistle* "put on beef" towards the close, but it was too late. *Rose* came in first by half a length; *Thistle* second.

Time, 8 minutes 15 seconds.

MEN-OF-WAR'S CUTTERS.—3 p.m. The boats to be approved and handicapped if necessary by the Committee. Distance, One Mile. Time allowed for oars, 8 seconds per oar. Four Boats must start for two Prizes. Entrance, \$1. First Prize, \$15; Second Prize \$5. (Post entries.) Service oars and conditions.

Three boats started: from the *Albion*, *Bramble*, *Britomart*. The *Albion*, having twelve oars to the other boat's ten, had to allow 16 seconds. *Albion* won by about a minute, the others not saving their time; *Bramble* second, *Britomart* third.

Time 10 minutes 30 seconds.

PARSEE CUP.—3.30 p.m.—Presented by the Parsee Community of Hongkong. For Four-oars. Distance, One Mile. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

ROSE.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, O. Chunnett ...	8	7
2 J. Seth ...	9	7
3 H. Lammert ...	10	2
St. S. Gidley ...	10	9
Cox, F. Lammert ...	10	0

THISTLE.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, A. Ribeiro ...	9	9
H. Gidley ...	10	0
3 A. Marti ...	10	5
St. J. Watson ...	10	2
Cox, J. Millar ...	10	0

SHAMROCK.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, H. Bain ...	8	9
2 H. Rapp ...	9	12
3 C. Humphreys ...	10	1
St. J. Witchell ...	11	6
Cox, F. White ...	10	0

KORNBLUME.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, J. Lambert ...	8	0
2 J. Barros ...	8	8
3 W. Andrew ...	10	8
St. A. Barros ...	9	7
Cox, C. Alves ...	10	0

LEEK.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, H. Sayer ...	9	8
2 L. Lammert ...	12	8
3 T. Pearce ...	12	3
St. J. Jordan ...	9	7
Cox, S. Seth ...	10	0

The wind and sea had gone down somewhat by this. *Leek* got a bad start; *Shamrock*, perhaps, got the best. *Kornblume* caught a crab shortly after the start. Then *Rose* shot away ahead, *Thistle* and *Shamrock* following about three lengths behind. *Thistle*, with a spurt, assured its place as second. *Leek*, though some distance behind, "stuck to it" well. *Kornblume* gave up. *Rose* continued to gain and came in first by three lengths; *Thistle* was second; *Shamrock* third.

Time, 8 minutes 5 seconds.

SNAKE-BOATS.—4 p.m.—Open to Chinese Snake-Boats. Distance, one mile. 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5. Eight boats to start for 2 prizes.

1.—Zau Ki ...	Red and Black.
2.—Tin Li ...	White and Yellow.
Tai Hing ...	Red.
Fu Ki ...	Black.
Hung Hop ...	White.
Wing Man ...	Yellow.
Shing Yau ...	Green.

This race was won by a nose. A launch of Chinese came to back up their friends. The race was pulled in a drizzle.

Time, 8 minutes 37½ seconds.

TUB SCULLING.—4.30 p.m.—(Tub Sculling Boats). Cup presented by Messrs G. Falconer and Co.; distance, half-mile; entrance \$1; to be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

Station No. 1.	Station No. 2.	Station No. 3.
J. Witchell	H. Gidley	H. Rapp
No. 3 Tub	No. 6 Tub	No. 4 Tub
Station No. 4.	Station No. 5.	Station No. 6.
W. T. Andrew	S. M. Gidley	A. Marti
No. 2 Tub	No. 5 Tub	No. 1 Tub

Witchell won; Gidley was second. A fair race; the win was by four lengths.

Time, 4 minutes 25 seconds.

V.R.C. CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE CUP.—5 p.m.—For Four-oars. Cup to be held by the winning crew for one year, but to remain the property of the Club. Distance, one mile. Entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

THISTLE.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, A. Asger ...	9	4
2 J. Alves ...	10	1
3 L. Musso ...	11	4
St. J. Millar ...	10	10
Cox, F. Lammert ...	10	0

KORNBLUME.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, G. Rubie ...	10	0
2 A. Loureiro ...	10	0
3 H. Austen ...	13	0
St. A. Alves ...	11	6
Cox, H. Bain ...	10	0

SHAMROCK.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, N. Alves ...	9	12
2 F. Bain ...	9	4
3 R. Witchell ...	10	9
St. E. Herbst ...	10	0
Cox, S. Seth ...	10	0

ROSE.

Bow, F. Tata	10	0
2 J. Hance	10	5
3 Roza Pereira	10	5
St. C. Hance	11	11
Cox, C. Alves	10	0

A good race. Alves, Herbst and Millar were level up to about half-way. Hance was out of the race altogether. Thistle came in first, a quarter of a length ahead of Kornblume. Kornblume made a splendid spurt towards the end.

Time 7 minutes 6½ seconds.

FOR FIN OR BULB-KEELED YACHTS.—Prize, a Cup.

The course was across starting line from E. to W., round Mark-boat off Green Island (starboard), Trocas Rock Buoy (starboard), Mark-boat off Green Island (port), and across the starting line from W. to E.

Contested in a stiff breeze from the N.W. this race resulted as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.	Corrected
La Cigale	3	56	23	3 56 23
Alannah	4	2	26	3 59 26
Erica	4	4	10	3 57 40
Iris	4	4	40	3 54 10
Min	4	5	12	3 58 42
Gloria	4	5	35	3 55 5
Kathleen	4	6	20	3 59 50
Chanticleer	4	11	23	3 58 53
Doreen	4	11	33	3 59 3

FOR YACHTS AND PARTIALLY-DECKED BOATS, of 24 feet L.R.Y.R.A. rating. Prize a Cup.

The course was across starting line from E. to W., round Mark-boat off Green Island (starboard), Trocas Rock Buoy (starboard), North Fairway Buoy (port), and across the starting line from W. to E.

This race was sailed in a light gale from the N.W., the boats labouring heavily. The result was:—

Vernon	3	44	22
Dione	3	50	08
Elapeth	3	50	33
Aileen	3	53	10

FOR OPEN BOATS, ANY RIG (Chinese-owned boats excluded). Prize \$25.00. (Post entries). Handicap. The course is—across starting line from E. to W., round Mark-boat off Green Island (starboard), Trocas Rock Buoy (starboard), North Fairway Buoy (port), and across the starting line from W. to E.

A poor race. Albion's pinnace had a walk over. After rounding N. Fairway she drew ahead very fast. Result:—

	H.	M.	S.	Corrected
Albion (pinnace)	3	52	40	3 46 50
Leviathan (cutter)	4	9	0	3 57 20
Tamar (cutter)	4	9	40	3 57 30
Albion (launch)	4	14	10	4 14 10
Tamar (whaler)	4	15	20	3 59 50
Albion (cutter)	4	18	12	4 12 2

The results of Thursday's events were:—

LIGHT GIGS.—1 p.m.—Open to European non-commissioned officers and men of any regiment or corps of the Garrison or to European crews of H.M. vessels or to European members of the Police Force. Distance, one mile. Boats to be approved of by the Committee. Time allowance, 8 seconds per oar. Four boats must start for 2 prizes. Winning crew of 1st race, first day, to be handicapped by the Committee 1st prize, \$15; 2nd prize, \$10 (Post entries). Service oars and conditions.

This race was a walk-over for the Otter, no other boat having turned up. The time was not taken.

INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE CUP.—1.30 p.m.—(Open). For Four-oars. Cup presented by the late J. S. Lapraik, Esq., to be held by the winning crew for one year, but to remain the property of the Club. (Prizes presented). Distance, one mile-and-a-half. Entrance, \$10; To be rowed in boats the property of the competing club or unit.

GERMAN.

St. No. 1.—Black, White and Red.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, A. Foelke	10	13
2 H. Brandes	13	10
3 C. Brehmer	12	50
St. W. O. Koehler	11	13
Cox, B. Siebs	10	0

ENGLISH.

St. No. 2.—Red and White.

Bow, C. Mol. Messer	12	4
2 C. Beavis	12	6
3 A. B. Rouse	11	3
St. F. W. Warre	12	7
Cox, G. A. Caldwell	10	0

With the German boat inside, the two boats which contested so hard in Challenge Cup on Wednesday, set off on the mile-and-a-half course. They both made a splendid start, but England seemed to be pulling a shade ahead. The English crew pulled with a very even stroke. When half-a-mile or so the English crew were about a length ahead. The Germans pulled with a longer stroke than England. At the one-mile flag-boat England was about a length and a quarter ahead; they continued to gain. England was pulling well ahead the end, but Germany, spurring, fairly well maintained its distance. England then also put on muscle and again commenced to forge ahead and finally won by a length. As the boats came in, the band struck up "God Save the King."

Time, 9 minutes 55 4/5 seconds.

HARBOUR POLICE.—2 p.m.—Open to the Chinese members of the Harbour Police. To be rowed in the Service Boats. Distance, one mile. Entrance, 50 cents. Winners of 3rd race, first day, excluded. First prize, \$10, second prize, \$4. Three boats to start for two prizes.

St. No. 1, Cox 410 Boat No. 2, Water Police.

" 2, " 402	1,	"
" 3, Launch Crew,	3,	"

Three boats started; No. 1 cox got the best of it at the start and continued to improve throughout the race. No. 2 was second; and No. 3 a long way behind. No. 1 came in eight lengths ahead. A notable thing about the race is that the crew that came in last yesterday is said to be the same as won to-day; they were in a different boat. Result:—

(1) No. 1 (Kwok Tai, cox)

(2) No. 2 boat (Kwong Chung Sang)

MEN-OF-WAR'S GIGS AND WHALERS.—2.30 p.m.—Distance, one mile. First prize, \$15; second \$5. Time allowed for oars, 8 seconds per oar. Three boats must start or no race. Service oars and conditions.

The following eight boats started:—

Otter, whaler, 4 oars. Time 9 m. 20½s.
Vengeance, galley, 6 oars. Time 8 m. 33s.
Albion, galley, 6 oars. Time 8 m. 55s.
Leviathan, galley, 6 oars. Time 8 m. 37s.
Albion, 3rd gig, 5 oars.
Britomart, gig, 5 oars.
Ocean, galley, 6 oars. Time 8 m. 28s.
Vestal, gig, 5 oars. Time 8 m. 3¼s.

A good race, made especially interesting on account of the number competing. Ocean was first; Vengeance second; Leviathan third. The Leviathan lodged a protest on account of the Vengeance not using, it was alleged, service oars.

Boys' RACE.—3 p.m.—(Open to all schools in the Colony. Half-mile; each school to be represented by one crew only; age 15 and under. Entrance free. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

DIOCESAN SCHOOL (POWERFUL).

Bow, G. Evans.
St. A. G. Siemsen.
Cox, T. Jex.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE (TERRIBLE).

Bow, C. Bunje.
St. R. Galluzzi.
Cox, R. Mooney.

A popular race. A launch of youngsters from the Diocesan School followed, lustily cheering their chums. A very even contest in the beginning, but ended in a good win for Diocesan School by three lengths. The Queen's College cox steered very badly.

Time, 6 minutes 5 seconds.

LADIES' PRIZE.—3.30 p.m.—Open. Presented by the Ladies of Hongkong. For four-oars. Distance, one mile. To be rowed in boats the property of the competing club or unit.

THISTLE.

Bow, A. E. Asger	10	5
2 J. A. S. Alves	10	1
3 L. A. Musso	11	4
St. J. Millar	10	10
Cox, F. W. White	10	0

Boat No. 2.

Bow, C. König	12	2
2 R. Berner	10	4
3 E. W. Carpenter	11	11
St. J. O. Hughes	11	3
Cox, H. W. B. Kennett	10	0

Boat No. 3.

Bow, A. Foelke	10	13
2 H. Brandes	13	10
3 C. Brehmer	12	5
St. W. O. Koehler	11	13
Cox, B. Siebs	10	0

Boat No. 4.

Bow, C. Mol. Messer	12	4
2 C. Beavis	12	6
3 A. B. Rouse	11	13
St. F. W. Warre	12	7
Cox, F. C. Barlow	10	0

ROSE.

Bow, H. Gidley	10	0
2 S. Gidley	10	9
3 J. Witchell	11	6
St. R. C. Witchell	10	9
Cox, E. Bruce Shepherd	10	0

KORNBLUME.

Bow, G. H. Rubie	10	0
2 C. E. A. Hance	11	11
3 H. C. Austen	13	0
St. A. E. Alves	11	6
Cox, C. M. S. Alves	10	0

All started. Hughes's boat got the best start, but Warre's men came along with a very powerful stroke. Koehler, however, with the German crew, shot ahead. At this stage it seemed that the winner would be either Warre's or Koehler's crew. The Germans, however, took the lead. The English crew steered a poor course. Over a dozen launches followed the race. At the finish Koehler's crew was first; Warre's second; Hughes's third. The win was by two feet; half a length between second and third.

Time, 7 minutes 0½ seconds.

BROKERS' CUP, LIGHT GIGS.—4 p.m. (Double sculls).—Presented by the brokers of Hongkong. Open to members not rowing in the four-oared races. Distance, half-mile. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

POWERFUL.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, S. R. Moore	9	0
St. A. J. Mackie	11	6
Cox, J. Cruickshank	10	0

JUBILEE.

Bow, G. Rapp	8	8
St. R. Basa	9	7
Cox, A. E. Asger	10	0

TERRIBLE.

Bow, E. Humphreys	9	0
St. F. W. White	10	0
Cox, H. M. Bain	10	0

Jubilee made a bad start; Terrible the best. At the outset Terrible commenced to make ground, Jubilee to fall behind. Powerful had by far the steadiest stroke. Jubilee fell hopelessly behind. Powerful gained ground steadily towards the end. Terrible's spurt was too late. Powerful won by ½ length.

Time, 6 minutes 23½ seconds.

CHINESE CUP.—4.30 p.m.—Presented. For Four-oars. Distance, one mile. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club

ROSE.

	st.	lbs.
Bow, H. W. Sayer	9	8
2 L. E. Lammert	12	8
3 T. E. Pearce	12	3
St. J. P. Jordan	9	7
Cox, S. A. Seth	10	0

LEEK.

Bow, J. Lambert	8	0
2 J. F. A. Barros	8	0
3 A. Marti	11	5
St. A. V. Barros	9	7
Cox, N. H. Alves	10	0

SHAMROCK.

Bow, A. J. V. Rebeiro	9	9
2 J. H. Seth	9	7
3 H. A. Lammert	10	0
St. S. Gidley	10	9
Cox, F. Lammert	10	0

THISTLE.

Bow, A. E. Sheffield...	8	13
2 J. J. Watson	10	2
3 W. T. Andrew	10	8
St. J. Witchell	11	6
Cox, R. C. Witchell	10	0

KORNBLOME.

Bow, O. R. Chunnett	8	7
2 H. M. Bain	8	9
3 C. Humphreys	10	1
St. H. Rapp	9	12
Cox, F. W. White	10	0

This race was between *Rose* and *Shamrock*. *Shamrock* took the lead. *Rose* went well a little behind. *Leek* lagged. *Shamrock* continued to gain. *Kornblume* was out of it. *Leek* secured third place, with *Thistle* keeping a little behind. An easy win for *Shamrock* by 4 lengths; *Rose* second; *Thistle* third.

Time, 7 minutes 36-1/5 seconds.

FIN OR BULB-KEELED YACHTS.—Including all yachts classed as first, second, and one-design in the club races of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club. Prizes, cups for 1st and 2nd boats. Handicap.

Those that started were:—

Vernon	Commodore C. G. Robinson, A.D.C. R.N.	Scr.
Dione	H.E.F.H. May, C.M.G.	"
Aileen	Lieut. Col. L. F. Brown, R.E.	"
Elspeth	C. A. Tomes	"
La Cigale	E. M. Hazeland	2 Mts.
Min	Capt. Crichton, R.A.	8 1/2
Erica	A. Denison	8 1/2
Bonito	J. Hastings	8 1/2
Iris	A. B. Rouse	12 1/2
Gloria	Officers, R.A.	12 1/2
Chanticleer	Staff-surgeon F.W. Parker, R.N.	14 1/2
Doreen	Major Pratt, R.A.	14 1/2
Payne	Officers, R.E.	18 1/2
Mist	C. A. Tomes	25

Vernon came in first; *Aileen* second; *Payne* third; *Dione* fourth. On time allowance *Payne* is the winner; *Vernon* second.

ALL OPEN BOATS, ANY RIG (Chinese-owned boats excluded); keels allowed. Handicap.

Albion's pinnace won this race. Several starters, but a very poor race; two-thirds of the boats, in fact, gave up. When the race finished it was quite dark.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

All were pleased to see the Germans win the Ladies' Prize for their good sportsmanship. As the winning crew came up on the poop they were warmly cheered.

Mr. Austen said she had much pleasure in introducing the winners of the Ladies' Prize.

Miss Berkeley said it was a most splendid and exciting race.

Mr. Sieb, thanked Miss Berkeley for presenting the prizes. The race, said he, was a particular one, it being got up by the ladies. He proposed three hearty cheers for Miss Berkeley and the ladies of Hongkong.

Three hearty cheers and a tiger having been given, a voice at the back proposed three cheers for the winners. Three good ones were given. The prizes were four handsomely chased English silver flower-bowls, with silver-gilt netting for arranging the flowers.

Mrs. May presented the prizes of other events. Major Chapman, in asking Mrs. May to do so, made a few remarks, saying how the second day, being the ladies' day, was the best of the Regatta. The events of the function had been closely contested; one even, in fact, ending by a win by only two feet. Captain Cowlshaw deserved the greatest thanks for so kindly lending the *Brilliant*.

The prizes were then presented, each recipient being cheered in turn. Commodore Robinson, who won the sailing race, not being present, Mrs. Robinson took his prize. Mr. F. D. Bain received the heartiest applause for winning a cup presented by the Hon. H. U. Pollock for the winner of the most races in the regattas of 1901, 1902, 1903. A handsome silver tea-set was presented to Captain Cowlshaw for so kindly putting his ship at the disposal of the club. The good skipper was lost for words in answering the call for a speech; he was cheered again and again. Last but not least was a presentation to Mr. F. W. White, late secretary of the V.R.C.

He has acted for three years as secretary; the token, a handsome inscribed watch, was a befitting token in recognition of Mr. White's inestimable services. Mr. White in responding spoke highly of the sterling qualities of Mr. Austen, his successor. The closing scene was a presentation, by Mr. Chapman, of a beautiful bouquet, to Mrs. May. He thanked her and said they hoped to see her there again. Three cheers, in turn, were then given for Mrs. May, H. E. Mr. May, Mr. Chapman, the Secretary, and the ladies. The band then struck up "God Save the King," and the company crowded into the *Fame* for conveyance ashore.

CRICKET.

INTERPORT XI. v. REST OF H.K.C.C.

This match on the Cricket Ground on Saturday ended in a victory for the Interport team by 10 wickets—an unexpectedly easy win after the fairly level play last week. In the losing team F. Maitland and E. Mast were unable to play, their places being taken by Commander Watson, R.N. and G. M., Fletcher. When play recommenced the Rest had scored 78 runs for 4 wickets in their first innings against their opponents' 235. De Paris and Chichester were the first pair to face the bowlers, but only 6 runs had been added when the former fell to a catch off R. Hancock's bowling. This was a token of what was to follow, as the bowling of the two Hancocks was too much for the remaining men, and the last five wickets fell for an addition of only 34 runs, Radcliffe and Lee alone reaching double figures. R. Hancock took 5 wickets for 16 runs and his brother 3 for 27. Following on, the Rest made a poor start, as Lee, who had carried his bat and had gone in first in the second innings, was caught when he had made 6 out of 10. Then Commander Watson, Mast's substitute, and Irwin got together and knocked up 40 runs before the midshipman was out. Chichester, who followed, left at 65, but Radcliffe helped Watson to hoist the hundred. At 116, however, Watson having, scored 56 out of the 96 while he was in, was dismissed, fourth out, by a catch off Dixon's bowling. Radcliffe continued to bat successfully, and Rimington got into double figures, but the rest were failures, and the innings closed for 147, leaving the Interport XI. only 42 to win. These Arthur and H. Hancock knocked off in less than a quarter of an hour, giving their side a ten-wicket victory. Scores and analysis:—

THE INTERPORT TEAM.

First innings 235
Second innings, 42 for 0 wicket (R. Hancock, not out 27; H. Arthur, not out, 15.)

THE REST OF THE CLUB.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
F. Maitland, b J. T. Dixon	17		
A. Irwin, R.N., b J. T. Dixon	1	st Arthur, b Bird	23
Eng.-Lt. Wall, c sub., b E. Hancock	33	1.b.w. b H. Hancock	6
Lt. Rimington, b H. Hancock	0	c and b J. T. Dixon	13
Eng.-Lt. De Paris, c Nicholas, b R. Hancock	17	b Bird	0
Major Chichester, b H. Hancock	4	b J. T. Dixon	0
T. Sercombe Smith, b R. Hancock	2	not out	4
Capt. Radcliffe, 1 b.w., b H. Hancock	13	st Arthur, b Bird	30
Com. Watson, R.N., c sub., b R. Hancock	4	o R. Hancock, b J. T. Dixon	56
J. E. Lee, not out	10	o H. Hancock, b R. Hancock	6
Capt. Boyd, c Turner, b R. Hancock	3	st Arthur, b Bird	4
A. G. M. Fletcher	14	lbw b H. Hancock	6
Extras	14	Extras	7
Total	118	Total	158

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

THE REST OF THE CLUB.

First Innings.				Second Innings.			
O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Dixon	10	3	27	2	14	3	37
Pearce	7	2	19	—	—	—	—
Bird	4	—	15	—	14	1	45
H. Hancock	13	3	27	3	9	3	29
E. Hancock	11.4	4	16	5	7	1	23
Turner	—	—	—	—	3	—	17

The following appointment has been made at the Admiralty:—Engineer Commander J. E. D. Graham, to the *Tamar*, for the *Wivern*, and Hongkong Reserve, to date Nov. 10.

FOOTBALL.

H.K.F.C. v. "AMPHITRITE."

The Happy Valley ground on Saturday last, when the above teams met, presented quite an animated appearance, among the spectators being a goodly muster of sailors and soldiers who had come to support the naval team. Both sides played in white, the sailors being distinguishable by reason of a blue slash across their shirts. The Club won the toss, and kicked off with a slight breeze against them. Their team was a fairly representative one, but the absence of Bonnar was sorely felt in the half back line. The sailors soon gave evidence of their intention to go all the way, and by vigorous if somewhat unscientific play, were soon within shooting distance of Kew, but offside against Claridge relieved the pressure. Kendrick next got away down the right wing, and shot hard into Kew's hands. The Club forwards now had a turn, and Williams struck the side of the net with a fast oblique shot. From the return the same player again secured the ball, and was allowed to centre unhampered, the sailors meanwhile appealing for offside, which, however, the referee did not allow. The chance was thrown away by Cooper shooting over the bar. Claridge and Webster were playing an effective game on the naval left wing and frequently threatened the Club goal. Danby, Cooper, and Brent endeavoured to find the net, but were erratic in shooting. Webster got down for the sailors, and centred well, but Liley shot wide of the posts. Not to be denied, however, they initiated a nice combined run, and Liley had no difficulty in beating Kew. The Club were now playing for all they were worth, and Whitmore put in a nice dribbling run and transferred the ball to Brent, who was just on the point of shooting when Haskins intervened. However, the sailors, encouraged by their supporters, were certainly doing the major portion of the attacking; only at rare intervals were the Club able to get near Sproat. Kendrick again put in a fast run down the wing, and from his centre Liley shot at Kew, who, however, cleared well. Combination among the Club forwards looked dangerous for the naval team, Haskins being somewhat lucky in clearing. Davison was playing a hard, bustling game at half for the sailors. Brent next got away and passed to Cooper, who shot wide. Play was, however, soon transferred to the other end, and Liley just missed the goal. A foul was given against the sailors, and Aucott had just kicked when the whistle sounded with the score—*Amphitrite*, 1; H.K.F.C., 0. On resuming, Danby took the ball along the line, and from his centre Cooper shot over the bar. A spell of midfield play ensued, and then Williams got away, and Haskins miskicking in clearing, a corner resulted. It was of no avail, however. The sailors now began to press strongly, and from a scrimmage around the Club goal Kew, in fisting out, fell. Kendrick secured, and shot straight; the ball, however, struck Kew as he lay on the ground, and rolled behind. The corner was unproductive. Webster, Wright, Connolly, and Kendrick in turn tested Kew, Wright's shot striking the crossbar. A foul against the Club looked dangerous, and Kew had to clear from Webster. The Club goal was now undergoing an almost continuous bombardment, and the backs were kept busy defending. Whitmore and Danby at length started a combined run, but were checked. Kendrick, who was playing well on the right wing, again tested Kew, but the shot was saved. At length Williams put in a fine run, Sproat in fisting out his shot giving a corner, which was badly taken. Danby forced another corner off Haskins with a similar futile result. The sailors left then got moving, and Claridge's shot just cleared the post on the wrong side. A good opportunity for the Club was thrown away when Danby finished a smart run by centring well, but found nobody up to support him. The same player again got away, but was fouled when in a good position. Aucott took the kick, but nothing resulted, and the game ended with the score—*Amphitrite*, 1; H.K.F.C., 0.

The teams were:

H.K.F.C.: Kew, goal; Austen and Aucott, backs; Gray, Forrester and McDonald, halves;

Williams, Brent, Cooper, Whitmore, and Danby, forwards.

Amphitrite: Sproat, goal; Parker and Haskins, backs; Peggs, Wright and Davison, halves; Kendrick, Connolly, Liley, Claridge, and Webster, forwards.

Referee, Mr. Broadbent.

FOOTBALL SHIELD COMPETITION.

The Hon. Sec. of the H.K.F.C. informs us that the following is the draw for this season's Shield Competition:—

FIRST ROUND.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| (1) H.M.S. <i>Glory</i> | v. | H.M.S. <i>Leviathan</i> |
| (2) V.R.C. | v. | H.M.S. <i>Tamar</i> |
| (3) Naval Yard | v. | Hongkong Club |
| (4) Royal Engineers | v. | H.M.S. <i>Creasy</i> |
| (5) Sherwood Foresters | v. | The Rovers |
- Byes.—Royal Artillery, H.M.S. *Ocean*, and H.M.S. *Albion*.

SECOND ROUND.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----|---------------------|
| (a) H.M.S. <i>Albion</i> | v. | Winner of (2) |
| (b) Winner of (1) | v. | Royal Artillery |
| (c) Winner of (3) | v. | H.M.S. <i>Ocean</i> |
| (d) Winner of (5) | v. | Winner of (4) |

SEMI-FINAL.

- | | | |
|---------------|----|---------------|
| Winner of (b) | v. | Winner of (d) |
| Winner of (c) | v. | Winner of (a) |

The first round is to be finished on or before the 30th January, 1904. Kick-off not later than 4 p.m. in each match.

In the first and second rounds the first-named club has choice of ground.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

SATURDAY'S RACE.

A Ladies Race for a prize presented by Col. L. F. Brown, R.E., was sailed, commencing at 3 o'clock, on Saturday afternoon. The course lay from the line off Kowloon Police Pier, Fairway Buoy, mark-boat to the north of Kellets Bank, South Pier Stonecutter's. Handicaps were given. Times at the finish were:—

	H. M. S.	Corrected.
Vernon ...	3 45 4	Scratch.
Elspeth ...	3 45 50	"
Dione ...	3 46	"
Aileen ...	3 47 52	"
Alannah ...	3 48 15	34 46 15
Min ...	3 48 43	3 45 43
Bonito ...	3 50 50	3 47 50
Chanticleer ...	3 51 22	3 47 22
Colleen ...	3 51 43	3 47 43
Iris ...	3 52 45	3 48 45
Doreen ...	3 54 24	3 49 24

Cel. Brown afterwards received those who took part in the race on the *Solent*. *Vernon*, owned by Commodore C. G. Robinson, R.N., was the winner.

BOWLING.

The match from the Bowling Shield ended on Saturday in favour of the Hongkong Club, who have now won the trophy twice in succession and have only to gain another victory to win it outright. On Saturday evening the score stood:—Hongkong Club, 5410; German Club, 5127. The second half of the match went very much in favour of the holders of the Shield and finally the victory fell to them by no less a margin than 979 points. The scores were:—

HONGKONG CLUB.			
E. H. Hinds	744	*736	1,480
C. P. Chater	783	*679	1,462
J. Hooper	*626	794	1,420
F. Maitland	*659	741	1,394
J. W. C. Bonnar	*687	658	1,359
J. E. Lee	851	*654	1,305
W. B. Walker	696	*607	1,033
T. C. Gray	*564	569	1,133
	5,410	5,437	10,847
GERMAN CLUB.			
Müller	751	*561	1,312
Stampff	793	*513	1,306
Vollbrecht	642	*619	1,261
Rombach	*560	694	1,254
Wacker	*635	610	1,245
Christiani	766	*475	1,241
Thiessen	*495	667	1,163
Brands	*425	642	1,087
	5,127	4,741	9,868

* On Hongkong Club alleys.

BOXING.

A boxing contest took place on Wednesday at the City Hall, promoted by Mr. J. Christie. The first event was a 15-round contest between Emerton, of the *Humber*, and Denyer, of the *Leviathan*. A game tussle between both men resulted in a draw. Blanford, of the *Leviathan*, then met Bergen, of the *Tamar*. Bergen had considerable advantage in height and reach, and after a splendid bout, got the better of his man in the eighth round. The event of the evening was the meeting of Newman and Preston, a 20-round contest. Newman, however, was the better man, and knocked his man out in the third round after some hard fighting. The match between Johnson, of the *Amphitrite*, and Doyle, of the *Leviathan*, had to be postponed owing to lack of time.

Denyer has challenged anyone in the Colony at nine stone, and Thompson, of the *Vengeance* issued a challenge to the winner of the 10st. 4lb. event. He will therefore meet Newman if preliminaries can be satisfactorily arranged.

The hall was well filled, and the various events gave complete satisfaction to the audience.

Mr. W. G. Frost, who refereed the main event, was handicapped in the performance of his duties by interruptions from the body of the hall. A gong or bell would be of great assistance to enforce order. Mr. R. Houghton was referee and timekeeper.

WATER RETURN.

LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST DECEMBER.

	1902.	1903.
	Below overflow.	Below overflow.
Tytam	10 ft. 10 in.	9 ft. 7½ in.
Pokfulam	15 ft. 9 in.	13 ft. 0½ in.
Wongneicheong	38 ft. 7 in.	16 ft. 2 in.

STORAGE GALLONS.

	1902.	1903.
Tytam	298,900,000	307,725,000
Pokfulam	32,560,000	37,915,000
Wongneicheong	1,057,000	12,816,000

Total 332,517,000 358,456,000

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.

	1902.	1903.
Consumption	67,835,000	119,670,000 gallons
Estimated population	216,400	221,300
Consumption per head per day	10.4	18.0 gallons

Intermittent supply in force during the whole of November 1902; constant supply during November, 1903.

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.

	1902.	1903.
Consumption	159,330,000	13,465,000 gallons
Estimated population	59,000	64,900
Consumption per head per day	9.0	6.9 gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

W. CHATHAM,

Water Authority.

HONGKONG VESSEL BOYCOTTED.

MANILA CHINESE DISSATISFIED.

A meeting of Chinese exporters recently took place in Hongkong, at which it was unanimously agreed that all vessels unloaded at Manila under the running check (official lighter system) would be boycotted, and, furthermore, if the shipping companies did not find a way to dispense with the most objectionable features of the system, from the Chinese exporter's and importer's standpoint they threatened to place new ships in the Hongkong-Manila trade. Messrs. Smith Bell & Company were agents of the first vessel unloaded under the new system. This accounts for the temporary

boycott against the company's vessels. This boycott was an extraordinarily strong one. It provided that any one of the boycotting parties who failed to carry out his part of the agreement would be liable to a fine of £500. This situation was finally relieved to a certain extent by the shipping firms designating as official lightermen those persons desired by the Chinese importers.

Under the running check regulations no cargo may be discharged from any hold except into an official lighter. Each shipping firm now has its official lightermen, whose duty is to furnish the necessary lighters for the discharge of any vessels that company may have in port. These official lightermen, although employed by shipping firms, are paid by the importers whose consignment they handle. Before the introduction of the running check each Chinese importing firm had his own lighter firm. According to the *Manila Cable News*, Chinese importers do not like the idea of official lightermen. They have had their own lightermen for years and want to keep them. They object to having their fragile and perishable imports indiscriminately loaded into an immense lighter where they will not receive the care and attention they would receive if loaded in the importers' scoops.

HONGKONG.

Kang Yu Wei, the noted Reformer, is at present in Hongkong, living with his family, not far from the Central Police Station.

Governor Taft, of the Philippines, is expected in Hongkong on Christmas day, en route to the United States, whither he goes to take up his appointment as Secretary for War.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 13th December were 223 non-Chinese and 65 Chinese to the former, and 90 non-Chinese and 2,054 Chinese to the latter institution.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. Major-General Villiers Hatton, C.B., was duly sworn and took his seat as Member of the Executive Council on the 9th inst.

Work is proceeding apace at the Racecourse with the training of the nullah between the Grand Stand and the course; it is to be covered over when completed.

Among the passengers to Indo-China by the French mail was Admiral Jonquière, who has come out to take command of the French naval squadron in the Far East, succeeding the late Admiral who died in Japan.

Paderewski, the famous pianist, is arranging for a tour in the East early next year, but at present his itinerary does not extend beyond Singapore. Perhaps, with sufficient inducement, he might be attracted to Hongkong.

The transport *Dilwara* will embark at Hongkong on the 21st January the 89th Company Royal Garrison Artillery, for Rangoon, and drafts for England. She will also embark drafts for England at Singapore en route, and thence sails for Southampton via Colombo.

All the carpenters' shops and furniture warehouses have received orders from the Sanitary Board to clean up immediately their entire premises, and to disinfect them and everything in them. Some of the streets where these shops are situated yesterday gave one the idea that a lumber-sale was in progress, both sides being lined with a heterogeneous conglomeration of tables and chairs, fit only for firewood.

The appointments are notified in the *Gazette* of Mr. R. A. B. Ponsonby as Private Secretary to H.E. the Officer Administering the Government; of Mr. E. R. Hallifax as Assistant Superintendent of the Fire Brigade; of Mr. C. Clementi as member of the Land Court; and of Messrs. A. G. M. Fletcher and J. J. Bullin as Deputy Registrars of Marriage.

On the 13th inst. the anniversary services of the Hongkong branch of the Wesleyan Missionary Society were held. Rev. Dr. Noyes of Canton preached in the City Hall in the forenoon. At 5 p.m. a missionary address for children was given in the 'Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Arsenal Street. Rev. W. Bridie preached in the evening. A public missionary meeting will be held to-night at 7.30, Mr. W. L. Aastey, R.N., presiding.

We understand that it is in contemplation by the Masonic Quadrille Club, to hold a Subscription Ball in the City Hall, about the middle of February next.

Praya East is almost impassable for cyclists at present owing to the operations of the P.W.D. in raising the level of the road. The thoroughfare is covered with mud and littered with bricks and road-metal.

A very fine specimen of a hawk was shot the other day while it was in pursuit of some pigeons on the roof of a house on the west side of the island. The bird was only "winged," and was captured alive.

The Supreme Court will go into vacation on 24th inst. and resume on the 2nd January, 1904. Instead of being held on Fridays, 25th inst. and 1st prox., the Summary Court sittings will take place on Thursdays, the 24th and 31st inst.

Warships have been arriving in such numbers that it was quite a question to know where to put them all. British warships in port last Saturday morning were:—*Amphitrite, Bramble, Britomart, Fame, Glory, Humber, Leviathan, Phoenix, Rinaldo, Rosario, Sandpiper, Sparrowhawk, Talbot, Thetis, Vestal, Virago, Whiting, Wivern*, a number of torpedo-boat destroyers, and the French cruiser *Montcalm*. Arrivals since then are:—Chinese gunboat *Kwanglee* from Shanchung, O. S. S. *Monterey* from Canton, Austrian *Don Juan de Austria* from Macao, H.M.S. *Surprise* from Shanghai, French *Kersaint* from Haiphong, German *Ilitis* from Macao, and H.M.S. *Albion* from Kobe and Mirs Bay.

MISCELLANEOUS.

All the U.S. warships in the Far East, it is reported, are to be fitted with the German system of wireless telegraphy.

A new planet in the constellation *Leo*, first discovered by Professor Hiramasa of the Tokyo Observatory, has been named *Tokyo*.

The German community at Tientsin has decided to build a new club-house from plans prepared by Mr. Becker, of Shanghai.

Mr. Herbert Irving-Bell has been appointed Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s agent in Japan, and to take charge of the firm's Yokohama branch.

The rice-crop in Japan was so bad in 1902, says the *Mainichi*, that the public were not in a position to buy much *sake*, and the brewing of that liquor so decreased that it caused a shortage in the State revenue of 10,000,000 yen.

We see that Supernumerary Captain J. B. Arbuthnot, M.V.O., son-in-law as well as recently A.D.C. here to H.E. Sir Henry Blake, has been promoted to the rank of Captain in the Scots Guards.

Mr. H. H. Brown, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's, Tongku, has been awarded by the Throne a gold medal of the first class for saving the lives of 40 Chinese from a capsized junk on the 27th March.

In default of finding security in \$500 for his future good behaviour, the Chief Justice at Shanghai has sentenced a man named Joseph Benna to be deported to Hongkong. Benna has just served twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour for theft.

Sir Charles Jessel presided at the North Borneo dinner in London. A distinguished company was present. Mr. Cowie welcomed Chinese immigration to Borneo, and defended the policy of railway extension, which had already stimulated industry to a remarkable extent. He ridiculed the assertion that the North Borneo Company was anxious to tempt Great Britain to buy the Colony, and hoped shortly to announce that arrangement had been made to work coal, iron, and manganese on a large scale.

A China Mutual steamer which arrived at Shanghai from Tientsin on the 8th inst., experienced great difficulty in coming down the Peiho River and passing the Taku Forts owing to the ice. Between Tangku and the Forts the vessel was jammed in the ice, unable to go ahead for twenty-four hours. Again, while abreast of the Forts she was driven back with the flow of soft pack ice three times while going full speed ahead. The port of Tientsin, the *N.C. Daily News* says, is practically closed and no steamers are now being dispatched there.

Manila has been visited by a deluge of rain such as, it is said, the oldest resident does not remember in December before.

The revenue from Customs duties in the Philippines is said to have nearly trebled in the last four years.

The well-known Russian General Wogaok is returning to St. Petersburg via Port Arthur and Siberia.

Mr. Bennet Burleigh, the celebrated war correspondent of the London *Daily Telegraph*, arrived in Nagasaki on the 7th inst. to watch affairs in the Far East.

The French have invented a new word to describe the movement toward a general union of the yellow races. It is "*pan-jaunisme*!" It has the merit of brevity.

Mr. W. C. Townley, British Secretary of Legation at Peking, and Lady Susan Townley left Peking for Chinwangtao, homeward-bound via Siberia, on the 1st inst.

A new hospital for contagious diseases was opened at Manila on the 1st inst. The hospital consists of one main and five isolated buildings, and cost nearly \$30,000 gold.

On the 25th ult. the Emperor of Japan gave a luncheon at the Shiba Palace, Tokyo, in honour of Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, at which ten other British naval officers were also guests.

A Calcutta telegram of the 1st December says:—Large quantities of ammunition and warlike stores are now being despatched from Fort William arsenal to Siliguri, which after all is to form the base of the operations in Tibet.

Nagasaki, says the *Press*, may suffer from depression in trade, but the yearly increase in population goes steadily on, the average yearly increase amounting to 6000. Her present population is 141,163, of all nationalities.

The Imperial Government is stated to have instructions for the issue of official Gazettes in the various provinces. It is enjoined that special attention be paid to the contents of the Gazettes, which are intended to "enlighten and uplift" the people. It was Mr. Johnson who declared that a people without newspapers must be barbarous.

The *Mainichi* says that the Russians at Liaoyang and various other places are being sent to Tsunfahshien in batches of thirty or forty every day. It is believed that these men are to be employed in the upper reaches of the Monkiang. The Russians announce that they intend to build a railway between the Yalu and Pingyang. Captain Wasieleff, adviser to the Russian Forestry Company, recently told some Chinese merchants at Antung that work on the railway would soon be commenced.

According to the *Kokumin*, an agreement relative to a Korean naval programme has been entered into between the Government of Korea and the Russian Minister to Seoul, and has just been signed. Korea, the agreement stipulates, will buy a cruiser from Russia for 400,000 yen, appoint five Russian naval officers as instructors, and establish a Naval College with the object of training native officers in the course of three years. Some Court officials at Seoul state that the Russian Minister wishes to give effect to the agreement without delay.

The London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post* wrote last month:—Much comment is to be heard in both official and other quarters upon the fact that considerable arms shipments to China are taking place just now. Not only arms, but the machinery for making them, are being sent out, and the assumption is that China is quietly making preparations for what is considered the inevitable conflict between Russia and Japan it being regarded as more or less certain that in the event of such a conflict China could not be a silent or inactive spectator.

The Manila *Sunday Sun* alleges that U.S. Consuls along the China coast are having disagreeable questions asked by the Washington government, and goes so far as to name four of them. We note that this is not in our contemporary's "pipe-dream" column. The *Sun* also remarks that the Hon. John Goodnow of Shanghai has been called home for an investigation; that the Hon. John belongs to the Minneapolis school of politicians, and that the crowd was never known to do things by halves. Are we to take it that the *Sun* infers that somebody is in a hole?

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 3rd December, 1903.—Re-reels.—The only transactions to report are in Yee Wo Hing's White Ticket, 10 Bales No. 1 @ \$765 and 20 Bales No. 2 @ \$745. Filatures.—The market has again ruled quiet with a continuation of the downward tendency in values. During the last few days one or two buyers have shown some interest in the present level of prices. The business resulting has not, however, affected the disposition of holders. The accumulated stock amounts to about 9,000 bales including all crops excepting perhaps the 1st and 2nd, and must soon begin to weigh upon the market, notwithstanding the temporary relief obtained from monetary advances. Prices paid include: Kwai King Lun 9/11 at \$225, Yee Wo Loong, Cheong Kee, Hang Wo Cheong 9/11 at \$200, Miu Shun Hing, U Hau Cheong 10/12 at \$265, King Tack On 10/12 at \$250, Kum Lun Tai 11/13, 11/15 at \$225, Sai King Lun 13/15 at \$240, Wai King Wo 18/22 at \$765, Poo King Wo 26/30 at \$790. "Native" filatures have latterly come into improved demand with sales of Soey Wo Cheong 11/13, 13/15, 14/18 at \$755 and Yee Wo Hing 18/22 at \$690. The first-named size is extremely scarce. Short-reels have remained on about the same level as previously quoted, but have no animation. Some sales have been effected on the basis of \$900 for Hang King Lon, Kwong Wo Hing, etc., 850/84 for Kwong Ho, Kwong Lun Hing. Sundry old lots of 3rd crop Medium grades have been cleared at \$310/820. Waste Silk.—Buyers have shown a desire to operate which has only been restricted by the firmness of holders, and lots coming on offer have in general found ready market.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 18th December.—The prices are the same as when last reported.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$3.60 to \$3.65	pols
Do. " 2, White.....	7.55 to 7.60	"
Do. No. 1, Brown.....	5.95 to 6.00	"
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.85 to 5.90	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.45 to 8.50	"
Do. " 2, White.....	7.45 to 7.50	"
Do. " 1, Brown.....	5.90 to 5.95	"
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.65 to 5.70	"
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.85 to 12.90	"
Shekloong ".....	10.75 to 10.80	"

RICE.

HONGKONG 18th December.—There is no change in the position of the market.

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$3.10 to \$3.15
" Round, Good quality.....	4.75 to 4.80
" Long.....	5.00 to 5.05
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2.....	3.75 to 3.80
" Garden, " No. 1.....	4.40 to 4.45
" White,.....	4.90 to 4.95
" Fine Cargo.....	5.35 to 5.40

OPIUM.

17th December.—Quotations are:—Allowance net. to 1 catty.

Malwa New.....	\$960 to \$960	per picul.
Malwa Old.....	\$1,000 to \$1,020	do.
Malwa Older.....	\$1,040 to \$1,060	do.
Malwa V. Old.....	\$1,080 to \$1,100	do.
Persian fine quality.....	\$810 to —	do.
Persian extra fine.....	\$820 to —	do.
Patna New.....	\$1,185 to —	per chest.
Patna Old.....	— to —	do.
Benares New.....	\$1,185 to —	do.
Benares Old.....	— to —	do.

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 18th December.—Fair business at an advance of \$3 to \$5 per picul. Stock about 700 bales.

Bombay.....	27.00 to 30.00	picul
Bengal (New), Rangoon.....	29.00 to 33.50	"
and Dacca.....	— to —	"
Shanghai and Japanese, 30.00 to 33.00	— to —	"
Tungchow and Ningpo, 30.00 to 33.00	— to —	"

YARN.

Enquiry from the country still holds off, and considering the season of the year, the market is passing through a period of unusual inactivity. In previous years, a good demand has followed closely on the completion of harvesting, but this year it is entirely absent, and on comparing the offtake at even dates during the past three years, it would appear that the number of bales now going into consumption is about one-third of the quantity previously taken. This is probably

accounted for by the high prices now ruling, the disturbed state of the consuming districts, and the dislocation of trade generally throughout the Southern Provinces. The few bales advised as sold and noted below, are purely speculative purchases, and although prices show a further appreciation of \$3 to \$5 per bale, they are still much below the equivalent of those ruling in India.

The manipulations in the American cotton markets have caused a sharp advance in the values of the raw material in Bombay, necessitating the adoption of short time by most of the mills, whilst some of the spinners find it very difficult to meet forward contracts extending as far as end of March next.

Local Manufacture:—Still nothing doing. High prices checking business.

Japanese Yarn:—Strong, but no business is reported.

Raw Cotton:—The fluctuations on the other side have been reflected in this market, and prices show an advance of \$2 to \$4 per picul in Indian descriptions, sales reported being about 575 bales superfine Bengals at from \$29 to \$32½ leaving a stock of about 450 bales on the market. China Cotton:—A sale of 35 bales Ningpo at \$33½ is reported—no stock. Quotations are Indian \$29 to \$32 and Chinese \$30 to \$33.

Exchange on India has fluctuated slightly and closes weak to-day at Rs. 127 for T/T and Rs. 127½ for Post. On Shanghai 71½ and on Yokohama 83½.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended 5th instant, viz:—

Indian:—A steady moderate business has been effected at an advance in rates of one to two Taels, total sales aggregating 7,250 bales, comprising 2,800 bales of No. 10s, 1,100 bales of No. 12s, and 2,450 bales of No. 20s, market closing strong. Unsold stock was estimated at about 28,000 bales.

Japanese:—Business was restricted by firmness of holders, who have succeeded in obtaining an advance of two Taels all round. Total settlements amount to 2,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 85½ to 91½ for No. 16s, and Tls. 92½ to 97 for No. 20s, market closing firm with a tendency to higher prices.

Local Settlements to the amount 3,500 bales have been effected at Tls. 84 for No. 10s, Tls. 86 for No. 12s, Tls. 90 for No. 14s and No. 16s, market closing firm, some spinners refusing current rates.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORT.

Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co., in their piece goods trade report of 3rd December, state:—The Japanese Diet met on the 6th instant, but so far the proceedings have been chiefly formal and nothing has transpired touching on the burning question which is of such vital importance to all interested in this part of the world. No faith is put in any of the reports from European capitals regarding the supposed settlement of the question, which practically means that Russia may do as she pleases in Manchuria, and Japan what she can in Corea. Such an arrangement could be only transient, and would simply mean the postponement of active operations until the Spring. The political aspect however has been temporarily lost sight of by the excitement caused in our market on the receipt of the news of a further sensational advance in Cotton. At the close of last week the quotation came 6.84d. and manufacturers raised their prices accordingly, until they were fully 12 per cent. over those ruling in October. Two days ago the price of cotton in Liverpool had dropped to 6.46d. and makers have come down some 5 per cent., nominally, but it is doubtful if even firm offers at that would induce business. Quotations from the States have become most notoriously unreliable for weeks past, as has been persistently shown by the higher prices demanded whenever an attempt has been made to put business through on the basis of actual quotations, which hitherto have always been looked upon as practically firm offers. To further complicate the situation the price of Silver has fluctuated in a most violent and unaccountable manner during the interval, nevertheless business has not been entirely suspended, and it has been found possible to fill a few indents with goods makers in Manchester happened to have in stock, and at prices much under what they would book orders at. Here, too, the dealers have been busy looking out for cheap lots for clearance after China New Year, and though they have met with some success, holders are not as a rule disposed to sell except for prompt payment, which has naturally restricted the business. As regards the market at our dependencies, there is not much of interest to report. A sudden spell of intensely cold

weather at the end of last week closed the river Peiho earlier than was expected, since when there has been no particular news from Tientsin. The most reliable demand appears to be for Szechuen, the clearances for that market being sufficiently large to put on a special steamer for Ichang, but her cargo will consist chiefly of Indian Yarn. The generally substantial advances paid for the auction goods this week speak well for the nearer outlets. The higher prices wanted for yarns have somewhat restricted transactions but the advance has been established and is likely to be maintained. The incoming English Mail steamer is bringing over 15,000 bales from Bombay. The Local Mills are finding it difficult to work at the present price of cotton, as the dealers here are carefully following up the quotations for the foreign staple, but so far seem to find ready buyers for Japan. It is cheerful to learn that at least one of the foreign mills here has succeeded at last in getting on a dividend paying basis as the result of the last twelve months working. The report is not yet issued, but we understand 8% is to be paid. The smallness of the business reported, and uniform course that prices have followed, render it unnecessary to do more than record the sales made public. In 8.4 lb. Shirtings Green Lion and Flag at T2.65 and Blue Pah-Shu-doo at T2.85 are mentioned, but nothing in any of the other weights. In White Shirtings, Fancy Boy and Flag at T4.75 and Flower at T4.80 have been bought to the extent of 2,500 pieces each. A transaction in White Irishes has gone through on a sterling basis. English Drills have met with a little attention, another order for 200 bales having been booked from stock on reasonable terms, a much higher price being wanted for a further quantity. A sale of 6,000 pieces American is in the book at T4.47½ for Clifton K. A small lot of 200 bales English Sheetings have also been sold from stock for this market. In American makes 26,000 pieces are reported namely—Fisher-man T3.65, Large and Small Squirrel T3.80, Cat Head T3.82½ and Red Pigeon T3.85. A few orders for miscellaneous Fancy Goods have gone through altogether of the Dyed varieties, Prints still being out of favour, small sales of 4 and 5 lbs. Turkey Reds are reported, but these goods are not going off well and stocks are accumulating. Although the advance at Auction in Black Cotton Italians was not so pronounced or general as for the plain staples, there was a decidedly firmer feeling. For Woollens there was scarcely any improvement perceptible.

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 4th December.

Beans	\$3/3½
Borax	\$17/18
Camphor (China)	\$95/98
" (Formosa)	\$—
Cassia (First quality)	\$—
" (Second ")	\$—
" Oil	\$170/175
Cloves	\$18/34
Fennel Seed Oil	\$220
Galangal	\$3/5½
Garlic	\$—
Glue	\$28
Grapes	\$17/24
Ivory	\$220/650
Kismis	\$16/20
Olibanum	\$5/25
Rosa Oil	\$60/175
Saltpetre	\$10½ @ 11
Sandal wood	\$27/80
" Oil	\$350/400
Senna Leaves	\$7
Sugar Candy	\$10/10½
Vermilion	\$86½
Wax	\$43/48½

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS

Per Steamer *Hyson*, sailed on 11th December. For Marseilles:—268 bales waste silk, 3 cases hats, 25 cases essential oil. For London:—178 half-chests Oolong, at Amoy, 1,301 boxes scented caper at Canton (27,321 lbs.) 50 bales waste silk, 210 bales mats, 80 bales canes, 31 packages buffalo hides, 237 cases pitch, 20 cases essential oil, 50 cases soy, 30 cases bristles, 13 cases hats, 75 cases ginger, 190 bales feathers, 76 bales china grass, 14 packages private effects, 25 packages sundries. For London and/or Glasgow:—150 cases ginger. For Hamburg:—6 cases shells.

Per Steamer *Prins Heinrich*, sailed on 10th Dec., For Aden:—100 rolls chinaware. For Suez:—3 cases silk. For Smyrna:—100 boxes cassia. For Genoa:—850 bales raw silk, 100 bales cocoons, 32 bales hides, 10 cases camphorwood trunks, 6 bales waste silk. For Antwerp:—199 bales bamboo scraps, 100 bales feathers, 20 bales bamboo, 15 rolls matting. For Antwerp and Hamburg:—190 boxes bristles. For Antwerp and Hamburg and London:—50 bales feathers. For Antwerp and Hamburg and London and Copenhagen:—4 bales feathers. For Amsterdam:—75 cases ginger. For Amsterdam and Rotterdam:—197 rolls matting, 125 cases ginger, 2 packages tea, 1 package piece goods. For Amsterdam and Rotterdam and Hamburg and London:—50 cases ginger, 5 cases wood oil. For Rotterdam:—130 cases ginger, 114 bales canes, 46 rolls mats, 40 cases ginger. For Bremerhaven:—1 case curios. For Bremen:—2 cases curios, 1 case paper. For Hamburg:—247 half-chests tea, 81 bales feathers, 50 cases ginger, 44 cases wine, 30 cases cassia oil, 20 boxes bristles, 11 cases blackwoodware, 9 cases curios, 7 packages tea, 5 cases feathers, 1 case silk. For Hamburg and London:—12 cases bristles. For Lisbon:—2 cases curios. For London:—32 rolls matting. For Copenhagen:—300 cases cassia. For Buenos Ayres:—50 packages tea.

Per M. M. Steamer *Armand Béhic*, sailed on 15th Dec., For Marseilles:—36½ bale raw silk, 201 bales waste silk, 134 bales cocoons, 8 cases silks, 21 bales hair, 441 rolls matting, 27 cases provisions, etc, 16 cases ylang ylang, 12 cases cigars. For Milan:—40 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—532 bales raw silk.

HANKOW, 9th December.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, best selected (Winter cargo) Tls.	33.00
Do. seconds	28.00
Buffalo hides, best selected	22.50
Goatskins, untanned (chiefly white colour) ..	65.00
Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each)	10.75
White China Grass (Wuchang and/or Poochi)	11.50
White China Grass (Sinshan and/or Chayn)	10.50
Green China Grass (Szechuen)	11.75
Jute	5.00
White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow) ..	11.50
White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchow and/or Macheng)	11.20
White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu) ..	9.50
Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiyu)	14.00
Animal Tallow	11.00
Gallnuts (usual shape)	19.50
Do. (Plum) do.	20.50
Black Bristles	120.00
Feathers (Grey and/or White Duck) ..	20.00
Turneric	3.60
Sesamum Seed	3.90
Sesamum Seed Oil	7.90
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	7.80
Wood Oil,	7.80
Tea Oil	8.30

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 18th December.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/8½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/8½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/8½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/8½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight ..	1/9½
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand ..	215½
ON GERMANY.—Credits 4 months' sight ..	219
On demand	175
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand ..	41½
Credits, 60 days' sight	42½
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer ..	127
Bank, on demand	127½
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer ..	127
Bank, on demand	127½
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	7½
Private, 30 days' sight	72
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	83½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	nominal
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	nominal
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	103½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	1½ p.c. pr.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	1½ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	62
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate ..	\$11.65
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	61.10
BAR SILVER, per oz.	25½

SHANGHAI FREIGHTS.

Per Conference Steamers. To London and Northern Continental ports:—Tea 52/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet. General cargo 52/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet. Seeds 47/6 per ton of 20 cwt. To Marseilles and Havre:—General 48/- net per ton of 40 cubic feet. Seeds 47/6 net per ton of 20 cwt. To New York (Overland):—Tea 1 1/2 G cents per lb gross. To New York via Suez:—30/- per ton of 40 cubic feet.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 18th December, 1903.—During the past week a fair investment enquiry has continued to be met with, and a moderate volume of business has again been booked. A smart advance in Hongkong Lands and Kowloon Wharves has been established during the internal.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled quiet with a small sale reported at \$675, the market closing with small sellers at \$674. London quotes £64. Nationals are unchanged with buyers at \$30.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue neglected with sellers at \$490. China Traders have been disposed of at \$57, and are still procurable at that rate. North Chinas have sold locally at Tls. 219. Cantons have again been booked at \$175.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are unchanged with probable sellers at \$310. Chinas are reported to have been booked at \$87 1/2, but at the close the market is firm with buyers at \$88.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are still more or less out of favour, the market closing with sellers at \$32 1/2 after small sales at \$32 1/2. Indo-Chinas are easier with sellers in the North at \$76. Douglasses are weak with sales and further sellers at \$30. Star Ferries (old) have been booked at \$30 and \$29 1/2, and (new) at \$19 and \$19 1/2, the latter closing in further request at \$19. Shell Transports have declined to £1. 1s. Od. sellers.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been booked at \$104, \$103, and again at \$104, closing firmer with cash buyers at \$105. A fair enquiry also exists for forward delivery at slightly less than the usual equivalent of cash rate. Luzons continue neglected at \$10 sellers.

MINING.—Nothing doing in this department and quotations are unchanged.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled quiet with sales and some further small sellers at \$204. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have continued to advance, and can now be placed at \$96. New Amoy Docks are unchanged with sellers at \$38. Farnhams are quoted at Tls. 128 buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have continued in request, and sales have been effected at \$152, \$155, \$156 1/2 and \$157 1/2, and shares can still be placed at the latter rate. Kowloon Lands have sold and are in further request at \$35. West Points are procurable at \$52 1/2. Humphrey's Estates have again been booked at \$11, and are still enquired for. Hongkong Hotels have been booked at \$148 and \$148 1/2, and can still be placed at the former rate.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos after sales in the North up to Tls. 40 have eased off and are now quoted at Tls. 37. Internationals are wanted at Tls. 25 and Laon Kung Mows at Tls. 40. Soy Chees have sold at Tls. 170. Hongkongs are firmer with buyers at \$15 1/2.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements are wanted at \$24 1/2 after small sales at \$25. China Borneos are firm with buyers at \$8. Watsons have been booked and are in further request at \$14 1/2. Electrics (old) are wanted at \$12 1/2, and (new) at \$6 1/2. Ropes can be placed at \$14 and Fenwicks at \$48. Watkins are wanted at \$7 1/2. China Providents are steady at \$9 1/2 with a small parcel probably obtainable at the rate.

MEMO.—Hongkong High Level Tramways Company, Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 23rd inst. Transfer books close to-morrow until the 26th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	(\$672 1/2, sellers; L'don, £64. 0s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£28	\$30, buyers
B. Shares	£28	\$30, buyers
Foun. Shares	£21	\$10
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£21	\$5, sellers
Canton, Hongkong Ice	\$10	\$10, nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$40
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$8, buyers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$5
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.25, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$105, buyers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited.	\$500	\$2.0
Philippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$15, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 37, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 25, buyers
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 40, buyers
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 170
Hongkong	\$10	\$15 1/2, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12 1/2, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$48, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$24 1/2, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$145, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$12 1/2, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$320
Hk. Steam Water-Boat Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$15 1/2, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$148
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$24 1/2, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$96, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$145, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$204, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$175, sales
China Fire	\$60	\$88, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$57, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$310
North China	£25	Tls. 219, sales
Union	\$100	\$490, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$135
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$157 1/2, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$11, sales & buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$35, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$52 1/2, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$10, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$15
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$6.0, sellers
Jelebu	\$5	50 cents, sellers
Punjom	\$11	\$1.50, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	30 cents
Raub's	18/10	\$8, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$38, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$18
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$30, sales & sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$32 1/2, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$76, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£1	£1. 1s. Od. sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$30, sales & sellers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 128, buyers
Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$50, nominal
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	nominal
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$210, buyers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$7 1/2, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14 1/2, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 11th December.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., in their share report for the week ending state:—A good business in our principal stocks has been done during the past week, but the principal feature has been a collapse in Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves. This, we believe, is largely due to speculators who have sold shares short for forward delivery forcing the market down in order to cover short sales. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats, Farnham, and Indos have remained fairly steady. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2 1/4, 5/8. Banks.—H. & S. A transaction locally is reported on the 8th December at \$660 ex. 73. The market in Hongkong is quoted nominal at \$675 with ex. from Hongkong on Shanghai at 72. Marine Insurances.—The only business reported is in North Chinas at \$220; in the South sellers of Unions are reported at \$492 1/2.

China Traders at \$61 and Yangtzes at \$135 Fire Insurances.—No business locally and the quotation for Hongkong and China Fires in the South is nominal at \$315 and \$89 respectively. Shipping.—H. C. & M. Steam Boats.—Sales at \$32 1/2. Indo-Chinas. On the 4th sales for December at Tls. 56 and 54 for March, on the 6th at 55 1/2 December, on the 7th at 55 December, 53 1/2 January, 54 March. On the 8th at 54 December and 53 January. On the 9th 54 December, 10th 53 and 53 1/2 March. The market closes with buyers at 54 for December and sellers at 53 1/2 March. Douglasses are wanted in the South at \$30. Shanghai Tugs. Transactions are quoted in these for preference shares at Tls. 47 1/2. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co. On the 4th business was done at Tls. 127 1/2 December, 127 1/2 and 128 March. On the 5th 125 December and 127 and 126 March, 7th at 128, 121 1/2, 121 and 120 December, and 123 and 122 March. 8th for cash at 120 1/2, 120 and 121 December, 120 January, 121 and 120 March, and 122 April. On the 9th at 118 1/2 cash, 120 December, 120 January, 120/121 March, 122 April. 10th at 118 December, 121 and 120 March. The market closes steady at the last rates. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves. On the 4th January shares were sold at Tls. 207 1/2. On the 5th cash shares were placed at 200, with sales at 210 and 205 for March. On the 8th March shares were placed at 202 1/2 and 187 1/2 with sales for January at 200. On the 9th, March shares were placed at 195, 192 1/2, 190, 185 and 175. On the 10th December shares were placed at 175 and 182 1/2 with sales for March at 190 and 195. At closing March shares have been placed at 195, 192 1/2 and 190. There are buyers at the last rate. Kowloon Wharves are wanted at \$92. Sugars.—In these no business is reported. Mining.—Kaiping bearer scrips have been sold at Tls. 5.80. Lands.—In Shanghai no business reported, buyers at Tls. 104, sellers at 105. Hongkongs are quoted nominal at \$151. Sales of Humphreys at \$11. Industrial.—In Cotton Stocks Low Kung Mows have been placed at Tls. 35 and Ewos at 37 1/2 and 40. Langkats. The market opened on the 4th with sales at Tls. 312 1/2 cash, 315/312 1/2 December. 327 1/2/328 March. On the 5th 310 cash, 312 1/2, 310 December. 327 1/2/325 March. 7th at 306 1/2 cash, 305, 307 1/2, 305 December. 310 January, 325, 322 1/2, 320 March. 8th at 305 cash and December. 320 March. 9th at 302 1/2 cash, 305 December. 317 1/2, 320, 325 March. 10th 310, 307 1/2 cash, 310 December, 325 March. Sumatras have been placed at Tls. 53 and 52. Shanghai Water Works are obtainable at Tls. 425. Stores and Hotels.—The only business reported is in Hall and Holtz at \$33. Miscellaneous.—Under this heading the only business reported is in Telephones at Tls. 67. Loans.—No business reported.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 18th December.—There is no improvement to report in the condition of the freight market. From Saigon to this, 6 cents per picul nominally; to Japan, some demand for end February and early March shipment. North coast Java to Hongkong, 17 1/2 cents per picul offering for dry sugar; to Japan, 27 1/2 cents per picul for February shipment. Coal freights are firm. From Moji to this, several fixtures at \$1.50 to \$1.65 per ton, and at the close there is further demand at \$1.60 per ton. Hongay to this, \$1 per ton last; to Penang, \$2 per ton. Monthly charters. The German steamer *Emma Luyken*, has been fixed for 6 months, at \$5,000 per month, for Saigon trade. She has t'ween decks and cargo ports and Hongkong passenger licence. The following are the settlements:—

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, Kwong-chowwan to Kobe, \$2.50 per ton.

Taiyu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Kuchinotzu to Hongay, \$2 per ton.

Prometheus—Norwegian steamer, 1,023 tons, Kuchinotzu to Hongay, \$2 per ton.

Ayr—Norwegian steamer, 1,417 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.

Nanshan—British steamer, 1,299 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.65 per ton.

Benlomond—British steamer, 1,752 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.65 per ton.

Onsang—British steamer, 1,787 tons, Nagasaki to Hongkong, \$1.65 per ton.

Taiyu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1 per ton.

Scotsman—British steamer, 1,085 tons, Hongay to Penang, \$2 per ton.

Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, monthly, 6 months, at \$5,000 per month.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

December—

13. Armand Behic, Fr. str., from Shanghai, &c.
 13. D. J. de Austria, U.S. g.-bt., from Manila.
 13. Eastern, British str., from Kobe.
 13. Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 13. Hongmoh, British str., from Singapore.
 13. Johanne, German str., from Chofoo.
 13. Kelsaint, French gunboat, from Hoihow.
 13. Laertes, British str., from Saigon.
 13. Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 13. Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 13. Taichow, German str., from Bangkok.
 13. Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 13. Undine, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 13. Vale of Doon, British bge., from Rajang.
 13. Victoria, American str., from Tacoma.
 13. Yangtze, British str., from Liverpool.
 13. Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
 13. Woosung, British str., from Canton.
 14. Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
 14. Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.
 14. Decima, German str., from Moji.
 14. Hounslow, British str., from Mororan.
 14. Japan, British str., from London.
 14. Morea, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
 14. Prima, Norwegian str., from Manila.
 14. Tientsin, British str., from Bombay.
 14. Taishun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 14. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 15. Achilles, British str., from Shanghai.
 15. Annam, French str., from Marseilles.
 15. Benarty, British str., from London.
 15. Binh Thuan, French str., from Moji.
 15. C. Apar, British str., from Calcutta.
 15. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 15. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 15. Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
 15. Ocean, British battleship, from Whaiwei.
 15. Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
 15. Tremont, Amr. str., from Tacoma.
 15. Vindobona, Austrian str., from Trieste.
 15. Wurzburg, German str., from Hamburg.
 15. Yiksang, British str., from Wuhu.
 15. Yunnan, British str., from Canton.
 15. Zafro, British str., from Manila.
 16. Amara, British str., from Karatsu.
 16. C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 16. Glenogle, British str., from London.
 16. Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 16. Hakata Maru, Japanese str., from London.
 16. Tartar, British str., from Vancouver.
 16. Wakama Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 17. Borneo, German str., from Saikan.
 17. Elg, Norwegian str., from Amoy.
 17. Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 17. Hanyang, British str., from Chinkiang.
 17. Junma, British str., from Batoum.
 17. Taiping, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
 17. Tamsui, British str., from Shanghai.
 18. Ballarat, British str., from Shanghai.
 18. Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 18. Bangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 18. Kashing, British str., from Canton.
 18. Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
 18. Yochow, British str., from Tientsin.
- December—
 13. Chingtu, British str., for Kobe.
 13. Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.
 13. Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. Germania, German str., for Shanghai.
 13. Haimun, British str., for Tamsui.
 13. Hangchow, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. Kashing, British str., for Canton.
 13. Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 13. Pronto, German str., for Shanghai.
 13. Tientsin, British str., for Canton.
 14. Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.
 14. Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 14. Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 14. Rozario, British sloop, for Manila.
 14. Taishun, Chinese str., for Canton.
 15. Ambria, German str., for Kobe.
 15. Annam, French str., for Shanghai, &c.
 15. Armand Behic, French str., for Europe.
 15. Capri, Italian str., for Bombay.
 15. Hoihao, French str., for Haiphong.
 15. Holstein, German str., for Haiphong.
 15. Hopsang, British str., for Kobe.
 15. Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
 15. Jelunga, British str., for Rangoon.
 15. Johanne, German str., for Canton.
 15. Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 15. Montcalm, French cruiser, for Saigon.

15. Pakhoi, British str., for Chinkiang.
 15. Tosa Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 15. Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
 15. Wuchang, British str., for Iloilo.
 15. Yangtze, British str., for Shanghai.
 16. Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Coast Ports.
 16. Benarty, British str., for Port Arthur.
 16. Clara Jeben, German str., for Shanghai.
 16. D. J. de Austria, U.S. g.-bt., for Singapore.
 16. Eastern, British str., for Australia.
 16. Empress of Japan, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 16. Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 16. Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 16. Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.
 16. Hupeh, British str., for Shanghai.
 16. Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 16. Machew, German str., for Bangkok.
 16. Pascal, French cruiser, for Saigon.
 16. Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 16. Tientsin, British str., for Kobe.
 17. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 17. Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 17. Hanyang, British str., for Canton.
 17. Kaifong, British str., for Manila.
 17. Hakata Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 17. Monterey, U.S. monitor, for Canton.
 17. Patchaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 17. Surprise, Fr. g.-bt., for Kwangchauwan.
 17. Taicheong, German str., for Deli.
 17. Teucer, British str., for Moji.
 17. Toonan, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 17. Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 18. Achilles, British str., for London.
 18. America Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
 18. Glenogle, British str., for Amoy.
 18. Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 18. Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 18. Taichow, German str., for Singapore.
 18. Ulabrand, Norwegian str., for Moulmein.
 18. Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Japan, from London, for Hongkong, Sub-Lieuts. R. A. Wilson, de S. Jukes Hughes, L. A. Bernays, W. N. Lapage, and Chf. Bosn. G. Boddie; for Nagasaki, Mrs. MacLennan and child; for Yokohama, Misses B. Deane and Cooke.

Per Armand Behic, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Capt. Denarcy and Rev. Steichen; from Kobe, Messrs. Lefevre and Asano; from Shanghai, Mrs. Martha Marshall, Miss Moller, Messrs. H. Weight, John A. Moller, F. A. Sone, Chas. G. King, F. Bonnet, M. Baring, W. J. Jack, Louvreaux, L. McGowan, and Kent; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Messrs. Martin Jules and Geosimos Deudimos; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Mr. David Idelowitch, Lieut.-Col. Van der Villigen, and Capt. W. E. A. Burton; from Kobe, Messrs. Konishi, Edward Wareford, and A. B. Hynd; for Colombo, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. K. Marguerite and two children, Messrs. L. Sabatier, J. Coudurier, and A. M. Jaffar and two children; from Shanghai, Mrs. G. Brustain, Mrs. Violet, Messrs. Saklatvala, F. Schmid, W. C. Henderson, and Woclaw Siorozenski; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Messrs. M. A. Perugia, Mistral Bernard, Roumanille, Pierre Rion, and Rev. Clement; from Shanghai, Mrs. Meunier, Mrs. Sabus, Lieut. Verneret, Messrs. Laglaize, Maurin, Floch, Le Carf, Demoy, Piquet Etienne, Amabric, Huet, Lossois, Lendet, Gaziello, Montjarret, Pourchane, Duval, Tanguy Gabriel, Piston, Hervaree, Severe, and Lieut. Stanley Clarke.

Per Korea, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. C. P. Bourne, Miss F. M. Bourne, Mr. M. R. Bourne, Mrs. A. A. Corey, Miss A. Corey, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Crunden, Master Crunden, Mrs. W. L. Crawford, Miss Crawford, Mrs. H. Duryea, Mr. and Mrs. John Eaton, Mrs. A. L. Freer, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Fayerweather, Miss Fayerweather, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ford, Mrs. A. M. Gode, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Gray and child, Mrs. A. P. Hudson, Mrs. and Miss Klinch, Rev. and Mrs. E. R. Munroe, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Mackenzie, Mrs. W. G. Marshall, Lieut.-Comdr. York Noel, U.S.N., Mrs. and Miss Noel, Mrs. J. B. Pike, Mrs. C. E. Rapelyea, Major W. W. Robinson, U.S.A., Mrs. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Safford, Master Safford, Mrs. M. Stephenson, Mrs. B. Swillier, Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Smith, Mr. W. J. Smith, Mrs. E. W. Tilden and son, Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Thomas, Rev. and Mrs. S. C. Todd, Hon. and Mrs. Dean C. Worcester, Misses A. E., E. B. and J. S.

Worcester and Master Worcester, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. White, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wilson, Mrs. L. Brown, Miss M. E. Brown, Dr. J. R. Wilkin, son, Misses F. Alderman, L. Curry, S. A. Long, E. A. Reed, Sanborn, F. Winn, H. P. Duncan, C. B. Hassler, N. Lisle, Agnes B. Richey, M. O. Brett, M. L. Fuller, and F. Shepherd, Messrs. C. W. Duppstadt, C. F. Davis, A. Gideon, C. P. Goerrig, A. L. Block, E. H. Cope, J. J. Fisher, E. O. Johnson, J. Meirouitz, N. E. Nichols, S. R. Price, C. G. Woodson, Robert Fulton, H. Horstein, Geo. Luhrs, E. N. Nutting, and C. E. Pierce.

Per Annam, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mrs. Liebert, Revs. Favre, Leante, Abbay, and Maurice, and Mr. Lanegne; from Singapore, Mrs. Rathel Braunstein; from Saigon, Messrs. de Croz, Dadre, Halr, and Buss; for Shanghai, Mrs. d'Almeda Santos and three children, Messrs. Lindsay, Naturn, Heitz, Bogdanovitch, St. Laroque, and Michel; from Singapore, Revs. Andres, de la Paz, and Ferrero; from Saigon, Mrs. Douro, Messrs. Le Gregant, Le Geilcher, and Peterson; for Kobe, from Marseilles, Mgr. Chatron; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. Cambon and Roques, Sisters Hennecart and Coltecalde; from Singapore, Sister Mathilde, Messrs. Lsoudis, Connoell, Chornton, and Svoc; from Saigon, Mr. Loukas.

Per Tremont, from Manila, Major and Mrs. G. Smith, Mrs. Chas. Richards, Mrs. C. Tozier, Mrs. R. S. Beard and child, Mrs. F. F. Barker, Mr. and Mrs. Newsom, Major W. Vinson, Lieut. J. M. Hobson, Messrs. Humphreys, Dell, Stewart, W. D. Graham, R. C. Baldwin, H. D. Darbshire, J. Goodbody, A. F. Marshall, W. Bradley, E. D. Graham, C. Davis, F. McGregg, M. Degnan, L. Davis, R. S. New, A. Aruhold, and C. K. Murphy.

Per Tartar, from Vancouver, Messrs. A. Berthorio and R. Desmaunt; from Yokohama, Mrs. Stokes; from Kobe, Lieut. E. R. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. J. Rushby; from Shanghai, Mrs. Hardy, Messrs. J. W. Jenks, and A. C. Durand.

DEPARTED.

Per Empress of Japan, for Vancouver, &c., Mr. and Mrs. W. Priest, Mrs. S. A. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. F. Bornemann, Mr. and Mrs. Willis E. Gray and son, Mr. Lewis Wall, R. N., Mrs. Lewis Wall and infant, Mr. and Mrs. H. Williams, Miss F. Johnston, Capt. C. W. Mead, Messrs. Carrol Seeley, R. Wagglesworth, R. N., E. F. Spethmann, O. Mordburst, E. G. Barrett, C. C. Eaton, Jas. W. Wilson, Jas. H. Mitchell, Geo. W. Taylor, Chas. Chin, W. A. Long, O. Martin, and R. Fisher.

Per Rosetta Maru, for Manila, Mrs. C. P. Bourne, Miss Florence Bourne, Mr. Martin R. Bourne, Mrs. A. A. Corey, Miss Ada B. Corey, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ford, Mrs. A. S. Freer, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. E. Rapelyea, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Safford, Master W. Safford, Mrs. J. Tharp, Miss J. Tharp, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. White, Hon. and Mrs. Dean C. Worcester, Misses Alice E., E. B. and Jane S. Worcester, Master F. L. Worcester, Lieut.-Comdr. York Noel, U.S.N., Mr. F. N. Noel, Miss G. Noel, Dr. J. R. Wilkinson, Misses Flora Alderman, M. C. Brett, C. B. Hassler, S. Mukai, and A. B. Richey, Messrs. S. A. Campbell, E. H. Cope, C. F. Davis, C. W. Duppstadt, A. Gideon, H. Hornstein, G. Hattutoro, Edwin C. Johnson, Y. Jura, W. Juster, Haru Mukai, J. Meirowitz, E. M. Nutting, Neil E. Nicholas, U.S.N., J. P. Pfau, S. Sugita, N. Tamura, C. G. Woodson, and E. A. Meyer.

Per Eastern, for Australia, &c., Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Bernardino, Mrs. and Miss Chue, Mr. and Mrs. Duarte and infant, Mr. and Mrs. T. Moodie, Lieut. J. V. Andrade, Revs. F. X. Fernandes, J. A. Guerra, and A. S. Pereira, Capt. A. A. d'Oliveira, Col. J. Stacey, Rev. B. da Silva and Mr. P. da Silva, Miss Amy Smith, Mr. R. H. Smith, Messrs. C. A. R. Abreu, Luiz Alberto, Joao d'Almeida, Victor Ascoli, C. A. Casaca, J. M. Continho, W. M. Currie, N. Jacobsen, A. A. de Lima, B. S. Litchfield, G. P. Mendes, Alberto d'Oliveira, H. M. Pinheiro, W. J. Richardson, Antonio Pedro dos Santos, V. A. dos Santos, A. H. Schefer, Manoel Soares, and G. A. Thomas.

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